

The WEEKLY REPORT ANORAKS

The First with the News in Print

No. 188.....6th December 1987.

P.O. Box 539. BLACKPOOL FY1 4RE. England.

The news is definitely better all round this week, but there again, it would have been difficult to have been much worse. The postal authorities have decided to settle their dispute and mail should be back to normal in a matter of days. Only odd areas were badly affected, unfortunately, one of these areas was London, through which a great amount of mail passes. Delays may have occurred, but normal working will eliminate these. Christmas delays will follow, no doubt, so don't hesitate if you are ordering things for Christmas presents. Due to the holiday falling just before the weekend, we have decided not to print on Sunday 27th December, but to have a double issue on Sunday 3rd January 1988. Further good news reaches us from the North Sea, but you may read about that in the relevant section inside.

WEEKLY REPORT and CUTTINGS is produced, printed and posted out on Sundays from Blackpool. To become a subscriber, the following weekly rates are current..... First Class (U.K.) plus EEC countries, including Eire, 35p..... Second Class (U.K. only), 30p..... EEC Countries (Sweden, Finland etc.), 40p..... Elsewhere (via Air Mail), 50p. You may subscribe for as many weeks as you wish.

The ANORAKS U.K. INFO - LINE will keep you abreast of the news as soon as it happens. Simply ring (0795) 511118 and hear a three minute, regularly up - dated message. If you have some news items for us, then ring (0795) 511119 and leave your information, after the whistle tone. Please note that we cannot handle merchandise or subscription enquiries on this line, however.

ADVERTISE IN WEEKLY REPORT. A full page inside WR will cost the amazingly low price of just £20 and will be sent to about 750 subscribers, each copy in turn, possibly being read by many others. A half page will cost £11 and a quarter, £6. A single inserted loose sheet, sent to 600+ U.K. (only) subscribers will cost just £15.00. Simply send us the appropriate remittance, along with a copy of your advert (any size or shape will do), and leave the rest to us.

NEW MERCHANDISE. Nothing new again, this week, but as we have stated before, all goods listed, are in stock and ready to be despatched, so, it is up to you, order now.

NEW ARRIVALS. Now **Radio Newsletter** is still going strong, and is now up to Issue 41. Plenty of news about the entire radio world, both legal and unlicensed is contained in its pages. Featured in this issue is an interview with Stevi Merike. Information from : P.O. Box 45, Kettering, Northants. NN16 0NW..... The regular magazine **Freewave** is a must for all those who are able to understand the Dutch language. 24 pages of news and stories mainly about the offshore radio scene, which also includes photographs. For more information contact Hans Knot, Postbus 102, 9700 AC Groningen, Holland..... **PLAY DX** now up to issue 484, this time has 6 x A4 pages reporting on interesting DX catches, as well as a QSL reply section, and the results of a DX - pedition to Scotland. Dario Monferini is your contact for this publication at : v.Davanzati 8, 20158 Milano, Italy..... **C.L.C.G. Magazin** for 11/87, is a little thinner than last time, but still with 17 x A4 pages of newspaper cuttings, snippets of news, and logs from SW and other bands. As always, the text is in German, and the magazine can be obtained from CLCG, Postfach 54 01 01, D - 4100 Duisberg 11, West Germany..... Lastly this week, and also in German is **Radio Von Unten**. This A5 publication contains 32 pages of private radio information, and also a large number of lists and logs of political clandestine stations throughout the world (as opposed to 'hobby' or 'music' free radio stations). More information can be obtained from Kurzwellen Pressedienst, Weender Strasse 30, D - 3400 Gottingen 1, West Germany.

TAPE OFFERS. We stay in the United States for the first two of this week's three tapes, and on the first of which we feature some rather unusual formats. Due to the total speech content, we decided to split one tape between two of the news orientated stations in New York City. Side A of Tape 130 features the 'All News All The Time' **WINS AM**. This station can regularly be heard in the U.K. during the Winter months on 1010kHz., so this is a chance to hear how it sounds in quality, rather than through the degradation of 3000 miles of travel. **WINS** claim to give you all the news in just 22 minutes. You can then tune back to the many music stations in the city! The 'All Sport All The Time' **WFAN - AM** is on the flip side of **WINS**. Again, an all speech station, but this time the majority of the features are about sport. News and traffic updates are also part of this unique format. **WFAN** can also often be received here in Europe on 1050kHz. once BBC Radio 1 transmitters

have closed down at midnight on 1053kHz. Most DX - ers will remember this station from previous Winters, prior to its format change in July, as it was then called **WHN - AM** and played country music. This tape will not be everyone's cup of tea, but it does show that contrary to the beliefs of the British media, all speech stations can, and do form part of a commercial radio system. Both the above were breakfast shows from mid - November. Still in the U.S., but way down the Eastern seaboard, and around The Keys, to Tampa Bay we travel to St. Petersburg, Florida. Here, for Tape 131, we find **WWBA FM**, more commonly known to its listeners as **Easy 107** or **Bay 107**. This breakfast show, from 2nd November contains plenty of light instrumentals and vocal songs, interspersed with local news and traffic reports. Would this have been how Radio 390 might have sounded today, had it been allowed to continue? Very laid back indeed! Finally this time around, it's back to England for Tape 132, and yet another of the soul /disco stations located around the London area. On 105.2MHz., **Stomp FM** is a relatively new, Sunday only station for the Essex area, adjacent to Greater London. This particular recording was made in stereo, on 29th November. All the above are recorded on C - 90 cassette tapes, and cost just £2.00 each, including postage and packing. For a full list of previous Weekly Report Tape Offers', either send an s.a.e., or ask for one to be included in your next W.R., or your next order of goods from us.

MEDIA MONITOR. Roger Tidy, the editor of the regular magazine Media Monitor, has asked us to inform all his readers that due to financial problems, he has ceased publication. He apologises to all his subscribers for the inconvenience, and will give refunds on request. This excellent publication will be sadly missed, as it had recently become one of the most interesting and eagerly awaited publications on the world radio scene. We wish Roger all the best for the future, especially in any new ventures he may have planned.

GENERAL. We are often questioned by interested parties, following hearing A - UK adverts on various stations, as to whether it is legal or not, to advertise with the pirates. Firstly, offshore... There is no question at all here, it is illegal to advertise, supply, work for etc. etc., under the Marine etc., Broadcasting (Offences) Act of 1967. How do some get away with it? By placing adverts from abroad, usually America. Having said that, the DTI have got to prove you have actually commissioned the advert and paid for it, which in itself is not that easy. The D.J. can mention your firm or organisation in passing, this is not classed as an advert. As regards the land - based.... It is not illegal to advertise, but expect a letter from the DTI informing you that you are encouraging

an illegal act and this in turn may be an offence. They even wrote to Caroline's American religious advertisers and told them it was immoral! Finally Irish pirates.... No problem here, feel free to go ahead and advertise. We would be interested to hear from anyone who has had confrontations with authority on any matter concerned with illegal, or alleged illegal advertising.

RADIO STATION NEWS.....IRELAND.

DUBLIN. Following several weeks of problems caused by the re appearance of **Radio Nova** on 100.0MHz., **Boyneside Radio** have now settled their main FM transmitter on 100.5MHz. **Sunshine 101** who had a transmitter on this frequency, have moved it to 100.3MHz. This seems to have sorted out the 'big' stations problems, but this is no consolation to **North Dublin Community Radio** who have been squeezed out of their 100.0MHz. channel. We understand that this station is still on 105.5MHz. The only other news of note reaches us at lunchtime today (Sunday). The message tells us that **Southside Radio** can be heard on 94.8MHz., in the South Dublin area. Apparently the station is run by former well known Southside Radio D.J., Paul Vincent and yet another well known name joins tomorrow, Monday, to present the breakfast show. His name, Peter Madison. Further details will be printed on receipt.

Co. MONAGHAN. All this week's action seems to be coming from this county again.... The blank carrier noted on 104.3MHz. and mentioned recently, belongs to **Music Power Radio** and is their new FM transmitter for Northern Ireland, Monaghan, Cavan, Louth and Meath. Power is around 600 watts and although getting out quite well in the South, has problems, as do many, with getting into the North. A higher mast is about to be installed, to attempt to rectify this. The transmitter is situated on the border and is linked to the studio by the original FM transmitter, on about 96Mhz. Current address is c/o 22 Ardross Avenue, Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan... Tel (042) 61601. The station is said to be more pop orientated, with only one country show heard, from 11:00 till 14:00, daily. The other new station in the area, **Northern Star**, continues from its location in two mobile homes near Emyvale. They have plans to move into Monaghan town at some time in the future. Apparently the station lacks one or two D.J.'s with experience. Audio levels are also said to be 'all over the place'. Their frequency is 99.9kHz. The other two promised operations from this area, have yet to materialise, but are expected to do so shortly. One of them is installing a 5 kw FM transmitter, to beam programmes into Belfast from their border transmitter site at Emyvale. In fact, as this is being typed, reports of non-stop music have been received from this area, on 103.7MHz. This is rumoured to be one of the two promised, to be called Kiss FM. The other is also located at this spot. The fifth Monaghan operation, **Big 'M' Community Radio**, has moved its FM outlet from 105 to 104.6MHz. This is now apparently causing problems with Music Power Radio on 104.3MHz. The station is also reported to have a new FM outlet on 95.9MHz. The sixth and final operation from this county, is **Hometown Radio**, which we believe continues on 98.1kHz. This channel is difficult for us, as the Dublin religious station, ICBS puts out a very strong signal on the same frequency, which rather obliterates anything else which may be on.

Co. DONEGAL. **WABC** from Inishowen Head was pleasantly audible here, in the week, on 124.2kHz. The station cannot be heard at the weekend, due to Radio Merseywaves from Liverpool, but once they have closed down for the weekend, the station is audible during daylight hours, in competition with **Laois Community Radio**. They can also be heard most times on 107.0MHz. with quite a reasonable signal here. Still in this county, we are at present, unable to determine the address of **KTOK** from Donegal town, who, we understand, are having building work done to expand and enlarge their studios. Their equipment includes Technics decks, AKG mic, Alice mixer, plus two stereo cassette decks, C.D. player and reel to reel machine. Quite a smart set up, we are told, although on the small side. If anyone can help us with an address, we would be obliged. They broadcast on 156.6kHz.AM. Our reporter visited Mountcharles and looked up **Glencoe Radio** (note spelling) and found them in the local library, next to the cinema, with quite modest equipment. They can be heard over a wide area on 112.5kHz.

Co. SLIGO. A short report from Sligo Town tells us that **Sligo Radio** is on the air on 98.2MHz. The station is run by the old Radio Sligo owners, Peter Hennessy and Tommy Brennen. They play mainly popular music with occasional Irish records and can be found above Fifth Gear Men's Boutique

in Market Street, Sligo... Tel (071) 45961. Using only 35 watts of power, the signal is fairly strong and clear in mono, although hissy is stereo.

Co. GALWAY. As far as we can determine, **Kandy Radio** in Ballinasloe are now only to be heard on FM, 103.5 and 98.7MHz. They have apparently sold their AM transmitter to a new operator out of Loughree, whose proposed name is reputed to be Galway District Radio (GDR).

LAND-BASED STATIONS. MERSEYSIDE. Friday morning saw both **North Coast Radio** (135.0kHz.) and **Radio Merseywaves** (124.2kHz.) on the air with strong signals. Listening to Radio Merseywaves, a good mid-morning show was being presented, with lots of interesting snippets from newspapers, quizzes, and other amusing items being inserted between the records. At 11:02, it was announced that that the station might leave the air for a few seconds, as someone was just trying to find a 50p for the meter. Then the record slowed down, and it did leave the air, but came straight back on. Nothing strange was thought about this. We then left our listening post for a few minutes, and when we came back at around 11:40, Radio Merseywaves was not on the air. As we didn't hear them go off, we are unsure as to what happened, but the 50p can't have run out so fast! North Coast Radio were still on the air at this time, and could still be heard at tea-time when the foreigner overcame them. We didn't hear the station mention anything about DTI activity, and so assume that Radio Merseywaves had some other problems. Radio Merseywaves were back on Saturday morning, with their usual strong signal, as were North Coast Radio. A **North Coast Radio** night out is being advertised for 22nd December at a local youth club. Tickets, which include a raffle, are obtainable from the station's mailing address of: 18 Downham Drive, Heswall, Wirral, Merseyside L60 5RF. 'Broadcasting from studios in the City of Liverpool', **Radio Atlantis** were once again noted on 119.7kHz. this weekend. Current announced times are 10:00 until midnight, on both Saturday and Sunday. Reception here in Blackpool is suffering in the early afternoon due to the Voice of America on the same frequency. Tim Jackson in his Merseyside Report mentions that the station has announced a more non-stop music format, following the views of listeners letters being taken into consideration. Today, in addition to the above three, we heard **Veronica 104**, on 104.72MHz., during the afternoon, with quite a good signal getting into Blackpool. Despite Phil Davies saying he would not be doing any overnight shows in future, he was heard from 22:00 last night and still on air at 09:00 this morning!

YORKSHIRE, HUMBERSIDE, and DERBYSHIRE. Things seem to be picking up again in West Yorkshire, as we approach the Festive Season. **Radio Veronica**, who we reported had made a couple of test transmissions last week, were back on the air last Sunday evening (29th November) on 105.5MHz. The signal was up to the stations previous standard, and reached many parts of the North of England. The power was reportedly announced as 250 watts, and an old taped programme was played, celebrating 14th August and the Marine Etc. Offences Act. Also heard was a programme which should have gone out the previous Friday when the transmitter blew. The station was on the air again on Tuesday last, but cut off suddenly at 23:30. In Leeds, **Music City Radio** (90.3) seem to be just content with a weekend only schedule at present. They normally appear during the late afternoons of both Saturday and Sunday, and broadcast through until the early hours, with their reggae and soul format. Also in Leeds, **ABC - FM** have now managed to get themselves back onto the air on a regular basis, after a long period off the air. Since last time, they have made a frequency change from 94.6MHz., up to the less cluttered area of 105.1MHz. Last Monday (30th November) they were suffering from poor audio, which has since been improved, although some problems with feedback seem to be occurring from time to time. New jingles and promotions have been aired, and announcements indicate that the stations is attempting to broadcast a 24 hour schedule. They have certainly been heard on most occasions this week, but as previously, the weak area of the schedule seems to be in the morning, when only a blank carrier is often heard. An address has been given out as ABC, P.O. Box 55, Leeds LS2 3AT. They are announcing a first birthday party at 'The Warehouse' in Leeds, on 14th December. Announcements have also been heard asking anyone with relations in the Leeward Islands would like to do an exchange in conjunction with the local station there Radio ZIZ.

FOR SALE. Eagle GDX 780 mixer, 2 phono, 2 mic sockets, master controls and cue sliders, plus talk button. Perfect order, £50.... Joe, P.O. Box 39, Waterford. Can be delivered (Eire) or dropped in Kildare town.

FOR SALE. Greetings cards / Note cards with artist pen drawings of the Ross Revenge, Communicator and Sealand. They come in mixed packs of five with envelopes and are ideal as Christmas cards. Send £1 per pack, to... Anchor Productions, c/o 73 Middle Mead, Hook, Hampshire RG27 9NX.

FOR SALE. I have hundreds of tapes, mostly Caroline, that I would be willing to exchange for some other tapes of various stations. As I live on the East coast, quality is excellent... contact Alan Atkinson, 11 Manby Road, Gorleston, Gt. Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31 0PQ.

WANTED. A recording of Radio Caroline 558 from 10:00 until 10:30 on 14th July 1987, with Jamie King... Contact J.B. Jarrett, 27a Windsor Lane, Knaresborough, North Yorkshire HG5 8DR.

NOTICE. In 1988, we shall be organising our first international Clandestine - QSL Hunting. For information on this, write to Shortwave Press Sec., Weender Str. 30, 3400 Goettingen 1, West Germany. Also, our third Clandestine - DX - Contest will take place at Easter, from 1st to 4th April 1988. Contact Contest Manager, Mathias Kropf, Mahr. - Schonberger Str. 8, D - 6430 Bad Hersfeld 1, West Germany.

WANTED. Could someone record some of Rankin Miss P. from BBC Radio 1 (Reggae show), also any of the Hip Hop shows from Radio London - Night FM. Will swap tapes from my large selection... Joe Cashin, Mooncoin, via Waterford, Eire.

LAND - BASED STATIONS in the U.K.....LONDON.

LONDON WEEKEND SURVEY - 27th Nov. / 1st Dec. 1987.

"This weekend, touched down on 30 stations, 12 of which were in stereo. New, were... **News Music Radio** (89.6), **Playback** (93.2) and **Fashion** (90.6). Missing / Not Heard... **Clockwork Radio**. Missing, presumed busted... **City Radio**. Returned... **SW Sound** (105.65 st. Friday). Busted over the last week... **NMR**, **RTR**, **Soul FM**, **Faze 1**, **Solar 93**, **Chicago 87**, **LGR**, **Studio 1**, **Touch FM** and **BGCR**. Believed busted, but back quick... **LWR**, **RJR** and **TKO**.

The fog swept up from the estuary, overflowed the banks of the Thames, and spread out over London, to become as heavy as a reggae base line. With the frost a regular nightly feature, Autumn has finally come to London and keeps most privateer engineers indoors to tweak up their equipment. And that is what appears to have happened this week, as a number of stations made both minor and major frequency re-alignments.

One of those in the major re-alignment stakes at midweek, was **Raiders FM**, who made a number of tests on their new frequency of 105.25. They have obviously got fed up with playing cat and mouse with Wembley soul and reggae outfit, **Traffic Jam** (97.75), and decided to decamp to a clearer, but possibly more bust prone area. It is possible that the move up to 105.25 was made at fairly short notice, as overnight tapes were heard at the weekend, with supremo, Mike Somers, still announcing the old 97.7 frequency. They have also taken the opportunity to increase their hours again, and now start the weekend stint on Fridays, at 1pm.

Also testing midweek, were **RFM** (94.25), who were announcing a soon to start midweek evening service, as well as all day Sunday. They came on air late on Wednesday evening and trod all over **Trax FM**, who were testing on 94.4, after trying out 105.6 a few weeks ago. **Trax** were programming soul music, but the presenters sounded as though they had their heads in a bucket, with the amount of feedback and tinny echo that was present.

Potentially, one of the most interesting events of the weekend was on Sunday night, when the fruits of much planning and research came to full fruition with the debut of a major London-wide, overnight, oldies station, following two test sequences the previous week. **News - Music Radio** (89.6 m.) is initially set for a 10pm to 6am slot. Founder and driving force behind the new project is News Director, Roger Ross, who already has plans for an eventual full live 7 day / 24 hour service. A Golden Oldies format interspersed with news, which has not been covered by other media, will be followed under the slogan 'The Hits of Yesterday and the News of Today'. Music is being carefully streamed to fit in with the mood of the time of the day, and a full advertising package is already on offer to potential advertisers. The spur of the competition seems to have

already galvanised the Saturday oldies station, **Hits FM** (105.6 st.), into action, as they were heard the very next night with their own overnight service. Unfortunately for **NMR**, the DoTI people took them out on Monday evening, but they hope to be back in the near future with a new transmitter.

Micro-powered **South West Sound**, they of the transmitter which is probably rated in candle power rather than watts, were back after an unexplained absence of 5 weeks, on at least two days this weekend. They have moved up from their previous 105.2 slot to 105.6, because of the **Raiders FM** move. Stereo is really only possible in the Fulham area, but their Friday night run down of the Top 40 from the Fulham Road 'Our Price' is always worth a listen.

Amidst vast amounts of distortion, **Radio Free London** were to be almost heard on various slots in the 92.4 region on Sunday.

The un-identified soul station heard last week, on 93.2, has now been identified as **Playback FM**, who are a micro powered station in Watford, and are on most evenings from 6pm until midnight. Only really receivable in the Watford area, they have been picked up on high spots as far South as Reigate Hill.

Also detected this week was a low powered ethnic reggae station in the Brixton area, called **Fashion** (90.6 - Slogan 'If it's nice, we play it twice', and they did!). This was heard through a lot of mush from an unknown source and was only really listenable in the immediate Brixton / Clapham district.

NW London's **Girls FM** are in full blast this week, with a transmitter / aerial combination, which puts them up with brother station, **Time Radio** (103.7 st.) for power and coverage. Both station are now heard over a vast area of the Home Counties. Whether this is a good thing, is debatable, but it certainly shows that it is not necessary to have kilowatts of power to give adequate coverage to the London region.

Whilst privateer engineers have been stopping in, the DoTI people have been on something of a rampage, with at least 10 and possibly as many as 15 stations affected by a massive series of raids. Overtime is being worked at a terrific rate, so much so that Christmas could be a prosperous time for them, and with the rate that transmitters are being replaced, this looks a distinct possibility".

Our thanks to Sid for the latest on London, more recent loggings will be found at the end of the land-based section.

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Across in Humberside, **WLNG** (104.9MHz.) hope to be back on the air on a regular basis from the second week in December. This follows tests made over the past two weeks. Transmissions will be between 20:30 and 22:30 each Tuesday and Thursday. The station has been missing from the air due to having to move their studios, which has taken several weeks. The new schedule is only proposed, due to the lack of time available to the team in order to pursue the project. In Hull, **Radio Takoradi** is understood to have made it to the air last Saturday (28th November) for only a short while and were lacking any presenters. The transmitter apparently started drifting, and by 18:20 was on 104.5MHz. The power then dropped, and our reporter tells us that reception was then nearly impossible due to a lot of nasty noises. At 18:55, the transmitter left the air.

THE MIDLANDS. Following their disappearance last Wednesday (25th November), **Second City Radio** (95.05MHz.) were not monitored by anyone up until this morning, when they returned to the air on the same frequency, so it looks as though the DTI did manage to clear them out after only a short period back on the air. The station had obviously meant to be around for a while, as before they went off the air, 'power plays' had been introduced and were being played regularly. **Radio P.C.R.L.** have now settled back down with their mono transmitter on 103.6MHz., after being around 103.9MHz., for the weeks following the big raid. The strength is quite good, as they can be received at times, here in Blackpool. They currently have a breakfast show hosted by Chicken George, who uses the slogan 'Chicken for Breakfast'. Certainly, when we were in the area a couple of Mondays ago, whoever was hosting up around 10:00 sounded professional and entertaining. Due to PCRL moving back to 103.6MHz., **Soul City Radio** have been able to move nearer to their original frequency and are now on 103.8MHz. They broadcast each Sunday from 10:00 to 13:00.

Enterprise FM (90.9MHz.) are currently promoting a charity called 'Food For Thought'. Any donations should be sent to the Enterprise FM address, with cheques and postal orders made payable to 'Food For Thought'.

Shropshire's **Sunshine Radio**, who were heard with a short test last Sunday (29th November), have been doing these tests in preparation for something special. That is according to an announcement by James Harding, which was reported heard during the last broadcast. An extended broadcast over Christmas is expected. A report of **Wrekin Radio** also being heard on 1017kHz., shortly after the close of the Sunshine tests has also reached us. It is not known whether this was an accidental relay from Wrekin Radio's FM broadcast or not. It is understood that one reason for the absence of Sunshine Radio from the air on a regular basis, is due to pressure from the DTI. The pressure is not on the station, but on the advertisers who were supporting the station recently. These advertisers have all been approached by the DTI, and threatened with prosecution for aiding and abetting stations under the 1949 Wireless Telegraphy Act., and other associated Acts. **Sunshine Radio** were heard again this morning, between 11:00 and 12:00, with a 'propagation test'. A competition was held to find the furthest away listener, who turned out to be in London!

RENFREWSHIRE. **Neon Radio** (103.9MHz.) had a few problems on Saturday afternoon (5th December). Programmes commenced as normal at 13:00, but at 13:08 the signal had gone. It seems as though the station had been operating from local council property, and Park rangers were waiting to pounce upon the station staff. There was a confrontation between the operators of Neon Radio, and the local authority workers, which resulted in the loss of an aerial and battery. However the transmitter and cassette player were saved. The station hope to be back on the air next Saturday as normal.

LONDON LATEST. A new station, to broadcast each Saturday from 05:00 to 07:00, using the transmitter of **TKO** (102.4), made its first appearance yesterday and announced itself as **CD 10/24**, London's one and only CD station. All types of music were noted and the address was given out... 58 Victoria Way, Charlton SE7. They also use the slogan, 'Music at the speed of light'. Another new station, **Passion Radio** (90.6), gave out an address of 403 Brixton Road. The Asian, **Sina Radio** (90.9) have been heard airing an advert for Ealing Council, for foster parents. Not heard this weekend... **Soul FM** (90.6), **Starpoint** (94.3), **City** (94.5), **Chicago 87** (94.5), **LGR** (95.5) and **Hits FM** (105.5MHz.). Other stations heard as per last week's listing.

OFFSHORE RADIO.....ISRAEL...THE VOICE OF PEACE.

It's all quiet in this area, unlike elsewhere, with normal programmes being noted by our reporters, Gali and Vered. Current line - up, as of 24th November, was.... 00:00 John McDonald, 03:00 Ian Hudson, 06:00 Tim Shepherd, 09:00 Steve Richards, 13:00 John McDonald, 16:00 Ian Hudson, 18:00 Steve Richards, 19:30 Tim Shepherd, 22:00 Steve Richards. 'Chris' Mould has left, after only three weeks, we are told, so has not returned from shore leave. Two new D.J.'s are expected, Paul Drinkwater and Steve Crombie, although whether they use their own names on air, remains to be seen.

M.V. COMMUNICATOR. Nothing much to report here, except to say that it was one year ago last Tuesday (1st December) since **Laser Hot Hits 576** hit the airwaves with John 'Rock n'Roll' Anthony. Latest reports tell us that Mike Barrington is once again back on board. The organisation are probably kicking themselves for missing a golden opportunity to get back their 558 frequency, due to the fact that their masts were still lying on the deck of the ship. And talking about them, they are the same masts that were built for the ship way back in 1984, when they abandoned the balloon experiments. They were built on shore, but the DTI got wind of it and raided the yard where they were being constructed. Prosecutions resulted and the masts were confiscated. How they have ended up on the Communicator is a mystery.

RADIO CAROLINE. Well, after the trauma of the mast collapsing, which made the headlines in last week's report, we can happily announce this week, that the station is once again back on the air. First of all though, due to our compiling last week's story from a number of sources, with some 'third hand' reports, a number of inaccuracies crept in. The station actually left the air at 02:51 on the morning of 25th November due to one of the feeders breaking. The seas had been very rough all the previous day and evening, but the problems were compounded when the tide turned, and the ship was being hit by enormous waves from the side, some causing the vessel to roll by in excess of 40°, a very dangerous thing indeed. The results of the rolling could be heard during Pat Brooks' show, with plenty of things clattering around in the studio each time the microphone was opened. It was this which caused the eventual collapse of the mast. Apparently, one of the guys had broken at this time, and several were noted to be loose when Peter Chicago and Chris Kennedy took a look outside. Due to the bad weather, it was decided that it would be impossible to do any repairs until the following day. Peter then went to his cabin, and Chris up to the news room. A short time later, the ship was hit by a gigantic wave, which made it roll to 55°. Then a series of bangs were heard (all the guys on one side snapping), followed by a crash. At this point Chris Kennedy managed to get onto the bridge to see the mast falling over side. Luckily due to the waves and wind hitting side on, it missed the bridge and accommodation, resulting in no injuries, except a number of bruises from being thrown about the rooms. A video was being made in the library at the time the mast collapsed, in order to show the movement of the ship, and the crew sliding and falling everywhere, and we understand that the noises of the guys breaking, and the collapse are on it. The following morning, the mast was still hanging over the side, only held by several guys. The crew attempted to cut some of the guys, to let the mast sink to the bottom, as it was causing some instability of the vessel, resulting in the Coast Guard still being ready to be called out. Due to the re-coil on the wires when they were cut, this idea was abandoned as being too risky, and the mast was simply left hanging over the side. On Friday morning (27th November), the crew awoke to find the last of the guys had broken in the heavy seas, and the mast had gone forever to the bottom of the North Sea. More problems were now being found, not with any equipment, but with the different way the **Ross Revenge** now acted with the weight of the aerial tower gone. In fact, we understand that it is now much like any other vessel, in that it bounces about much more, and is not as comfortable to live on as previously. In fact the ship is rolling so much, that the records are continually falling out on the floor of the library. Due to the swiftness with which the mast fell, the ship apparently came out relatively unscathed, although looked a bit bedraggled, we are told. However the large 'through the deck' insulator was broken, and the diplexer was damaged.

So, the station was off the air, and we were all hoping that the weather would be kind enough to allow some

temporary aerial system to be rigged up. But where would they hang it from, as there was nothing left of the mast to use (Laser at least had half a rear tower left to attach the system to!). Well, after only about 8½ days with no signals emanating from the Ross Revenge, on Thursday, 3rd December, we received a telephone call from a kind listener in Kent, who said test tones were being put out on 558kHz. We could just hear them in Blackpool, and another quick call to Harwich confirmed that the signal was indeed coming from that part of the country. The tones continued until about 16:45, when continuous 'Motown' music ensued, and the signal then disappeared beneath the foreign interference. The exact source of the tests was not known - was it Caroline, the Communicator or a dreaded BBC transmitter coming to gobble up yet another channel? Tuning around on Friday morning (4th December), nothing was heard by us until just before mid-day when test tones of various frequencies were heard. The signal was eventually modulated with music shortly before 13:00, and still no one was really sure who to attribute it to. The answer came at 13:15, when 'Caroline' by the Fortunes was played - so now we knew who it was. Programmes commenced at this time, and although we ourselves couldn't hear the station we understand that Nigel Harris presented through the afternoon. At this point, Nigel mentioned that Chris Kennedy, Pat Brooks and Tim Allen were tidying up the record library. Tim followed with a programme at 17:00. A break in transmission was noted between 14:55 and 15:25. The station left the air at 17:55, but returned once again at 19:18 with Tim Allen, who finally finished his programme at 21:00. Chris Kennedy then took over until midnight, when the station made an official closedown. Yesterday morning, (5th December), Caroline was not heard until approximately 09:30, when Tim Allen proceeded to host a show through until mid day. At 12:00 Keith Francis took over, followed by Nigel Harris at 15:00 and finally Chris Kennedy who hosted the final show of the day between 18:00 and 21:00, when he closed the station down once more. No breaks in transmission were noted on Saturday. This morning Tim Allen again hosted the first show until 09:00, when Tony Peters made a return to the air hosting until 12:00. Keith Francis took over at this time, but the seas were beginning to get a bit rough again, and the transmitter kept tripping out occasionally, until it finally left the air mid-record at 12:36. Nothing has been heard since.

Currently, the presenters on board the ship are Tony Peters, Keith Francis, Tim Allen, Pat Brooks, Nigel Harris and Chris Kennedy. Kevin Turner is now on land for some shore leave, and Andy Cameron also left during the week, although he had not been heard on the air apart from reading a handful of news bulletins. An approximate 06:00 until 18:00 schedule is expected to be followed for the time being, due to reception problems after dark. Reception here in Blackpool is possible, but only during peak ground wave time (around 10:00 till 12:00) and then only with the best of equipment and aerials.

The lads on board certainly hadn't been lying idle during their time off air, and it is to their credit that they managed to get the station on so quickly, under such severe conditions. The present set up could be classed as 'real' radio. Due to the insulator being smashed, a temporary one has been rigged up, using an old plastic washing basket, turned upside down, the low level of which means the station has to leave the air should it get too wet. The front mast has been extended slightly to give one point for the aerial array to be connected to. The other fixing for the system, is on the ship's funnel. Here, poles have been welded to the funnel in order to support the other end of the new system, which is of a 'T' type. Just 1kW is understood to be being pumped into this system, which is obviously somewhat inefficient, however it is getting a signal out which can be received some way inland. All credit must go to everyone out on the Ross for making this big effort, using just bits lying about the ship. When a few more parts are made available, the power can be upped on 558kHz. The 819kHz. service from Radio Monique and Viewpoint is also expected to resume as soon as parts for the diplexer are constructed, or delivered. Obviously, this will also be running on low power for the time being. Test tones were heard on 819kHz. in the early hours of the Thursday morning, but where these were emanating from is unknown. However the 558kHz. tests were first noted later that day. It could have been that 819kHz was being tried out. We understand that the 50kW transmitter did not like the small aerial system anyway.

The Monique studio was apparently quite a mess after the storms, as very little of the equipment was actually screwed down. This resulted in decks etc., simply ending up on the floor.

As for future plans, we hear rumours that rather than have a single structure again, two masts with a 'T' aerial system may be used. This would also enable work to be carried out, without the station having to leave the air too often. Only time will tell which system will be used. The Nannell has a nice mast doing nothing (thinks!).

CAROLINE LINE - UP. The Radio Caroline Line - Up chart for November is now available for an s.a.e. from Ian Goddard, 621 Main Road, Dovercourt, Harwich CO12 4NH. As well as the presenters times etc., Ian also lists who read the news bulletins. Certainly a must for the Caroline fanatic.

SHORT WAVE STATIONS...Log for 6th December 1987.

6205kHz...RADIO TONAIR, at 10:56gmt.
 6240kHz...RIVERSIDE RADIO INT., at 11:25gmt.
 6266kHz...RADIO ELECTRA, at 11:44gmt.
 6275kHz...RADIO WAVES INT., at 09:35gmt.
 6280kHz...SATELLITE BROADCASTING CO., at 09:50gmt.
 6280kHz...MAPLE LEAF RADIO, at 10:32gmt.
 6280kHz...WESTSIDE RADIO INT., at 11:20gmt.
 6285kHz...RADIO STELLA INT., at 13:25gmt.
 6290kHz...C.L.C.G., at 08:58gmt.
 6290kHz...RADIO ORION, at 09:47gmt.
 6296kHz...RADIO UNIVERSUM, at 09:56gmt.
 6296kHz...RADIO POGO 104, at 10:30gmt.
 6296kHz...RADIO TELSTAR, at 11:36gmt.
 6299kHz...BORDER RADIO, at 09:03gmt.
 6306kHz...KLA, at 10:46gmt.
 6310kHz...RADIO EAST COAST COMM., at 11:00gmt.
 6318kHz...RADIO STELLA INT., at 09:45gmt.
 6318kHz...CRUISIN' SOLID GOLD, at 11:35gmt.
 6318kHz...W.L.R., at 13:20gmt.
 6525kHz...KLA RADIO, at 11:14gmt.
 6725kHz...EUROPEAN MUSIC RADIO, at 10:58gmt.
 7361kHz...RADIO 101, at 09:11gmt.
 7361kHz...RADIO JOYSTICK, at 09:55gmt.
 7372kHz...RADIO AQUARIUS INT., at 10:20gmt.

Very good conditions today were spoilt somewhat by the closeness of many stations to each other, and the resultant heterodynes. Thanks to listeners today from the Midlands, Norwich and Hampshire who kindly telephoned in their logs on (0253) 882017.

Radio Tonair were announcing they were testing out new equipment, and proper programmes were not being put out. They were asking for long distance contacts.

Riverside Radio International were being relayed via the transmitters of Radio Rainbow International. It was nice to hear this station on the medium wave (1521kHz.) here with a clear signal. Maple Leaf Radio, often heard via Riverside, were noted on 6280kHz. We think they may have been relayed via S.B.C., who in turn were relayed via Westside.

There was a bit of a mess between 6295 and 6310kHz. during most of the morning. First of all, the skip conditions brought in one of the clandestine stations from the Americas on 6305kHz. This meant that the station on 6306kHz. was very difficult to make out, due to a 1kHz whistle. However we did note that the station mentioned 6525kHz., and since we heard KLA Radio on this channel clearly, we assumed that this was them also. Having said that, programmes were not in parallel on 6525 and 6306kHz. Radio East Coast Commercial were heard signing on at 11:00 with a very strong signal, compounding the problems of the unidentified station on 6306kHz. Whistles were also noted later around 6299kHz., as Border Radio, and Radio Universum were only 3kHz apart. We did not manage to identify anything on 6275kHz, due to a heterodyne, and also some other unknown noise source. Other loggers were more successful, however.

Beatle Radio tell us that they will be relayed via the transmitters of the Scottish Free Radio Network on 6318kHz., on 13th December, from 09:00 to 10:00. The note is signed 'D.J. Ringo' which suggests the programme contents will feature music of the group of the same name. Also one to look out for on the same day, will be the hopeful return of FMTR. They tell us they could be on the 41m band.

Our sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed to this week's issue, especially to those who have kept us informed of the activity on the North Sea.

The WEEKLY REPORT ANORAKS

The First with the News in Print

No. 189.....13th December 1987.

P.O. Box 539, BLACKPOOL FY1 4RE, England.

Apologies first off, to everyone who received last week's issue several days late. It appears that the Christmas post has now reached such a volume that even 1st Class mail is taking up to 5 days. Last week, we posted earlier than normal, but this seems to have had little effect. In certain areas, the delays are due to a back - log caused by local disputes the previous week. Hopefully, things should be a little better this week.

Well, one thing always leads to another as they say, and the difficulty in listening to Radio Caroline (for us anyway), brought, during the early part of last week, the start of an excellent spell of North American DX - ing. Reception from this American continent hasn't been the best of late, with even a recent DX - pedition to Sheigra, North West Scotland, being very disappointing, with mainly South American and Caribbean stations being received. This week changed all this however, and we had hoped that these superb conditions would have lasted maybe a little more than a few days, but, alas, no, as listeners to Jonathon Mark's Media Network programme found out, when he said the conditions were the best for five years on the lower frequencies, but that the short good spell was over (this was Thursday lunchtime). Recent 'good conditions' from the U.S. and Canada, meant reasonable signals on a narrow band receiver, but, during the early part of last week, the band opened up for the simplest of radios, and even portable cassette recorders, sometimes even without the aid of a loop aerial. As usual, it was 'old favourite', 930kHz. which was the first to become apparent, but not with the normal CJYQ this time. Instead, we were listening to CFBC from St. Johns, in New Brunswick. The signal was so good, it was at first mistaken for a European station. Other stations receivable with wide bandwidth, although occasionally with a heterodyne from a nearby European station, were WBZ (1030kHz. - Boston, Massachusetts), WFAN (1050kHz. - New York City) which was also fading with an equally strong CHUM (Toronto, Ontario), and WHAM (1180kHz. - Rochester, New York). There was a station on most clear frequencies, but these all required narrow band receivers, and an insomniac! No doubt plenty of new contacts were recorded during these few days, and there was certainly lots of entertaining listening, especially from the Canadian stations who tend to still be more musically orientated than the U.S. on the AM band. By Thursday evening, things unfortunately had returned to normal. Let us hope that this is just a taste of things to come for the rest of the Winter. It will be most interesting to see the next issues of 'dx - log' magazines (Play - DX, Communication, Medium Wave News, etc.) to see how many 'first time in the U.K.' stations were logged, and also to see how many elusive 'K' stations were logged too.

WEEKLY REPORT and CUTTINGS is produced, printed and posted out each Sunday from Blackpool. When it arrives on your doorstep is anyone's guess, but to become a victim of late mail, subscribe now at the following weekly rates.... First Class (U.K.), plus EEC countries (inc. Eire), 35p.... Second Class (U.K. only), 30p.... EEC countries (Sweden, Switzerland, etc.), 40p.... Elsewhere (posted Airmail), 50p. You may subscribe for as many weeks as you wish. There is absolutely no limit, in fact several people this week have subscribed for two years! (They must have faith in A - UK!). The reason we mention this, is the fact that we have just read in today's paper that postal rates are not set to rise yet, which undoubtedly means they will do just that, and before not too long either. An increase of 2p was mentioned, but certainly not forecast, and this, if it happens, as no doubt it will, along with increased paper and printing costs, will mean an increase in subscription rates of 5p all round. Of course, those with subscriptions already paid up, will not be asked to pay the increase. So, now may be the time to save a few bob, as they say.

THE ANORAKS U.K. INFO - LINE. Ring this number now, (0795) 511118, and hear the latest news, since the last report was printed. If you have news for us, then ring (0795) 511119 and leave your message after the whistle tone. Don't leave any messages about subscriptions or merchandise, or it will confuse Steve, as he does not deal with that side of the business.

NEW MERCHANDISE. Just a couple of items this week.... the September / October 1987 **PIN MAGAZINE FREQUENCY & ADDRESS LIST.** This 4 page, A5 booklet, lists all the free radio stations heard on shortwave during those two months. The last two pages then list the addresses currently used by these active stations. A copy of this list will cost you just 50p. This is certainly a good investment for those who write to stations a lot, and can sometimes not correctly read the addresses through the noisy bands. This year's PIN Magazine Free Radio Popularity Poll is also currently being compiled. If you would like one of their forms, please ask us to put one in your next Weekly Report, or in your next order. A competition is to be held with this poll, so send for your forms today, as prizes are to be given..... **OFFSHORE MAGAZINE,** Issue 42/43 is now available, and covers, as the title infers, just the ship borne stations. 44 x A5 pages in this latest issue. The outer cover is high quality glossy and features a couple of not seen before shots of the 'King David' (along with a story in Dutch) and 'Ocean 7'. More pictures inside, along with text, half of which is in English, and half in Dutch. The price is £1.90.

NEW ARRIVALS. Amongst the large number of magazines to drop on our desk this week, **Short Wave Newsletter** (Issue 30) was the first to arrive. This time it includes all the regular features such as the latest time and frequency information from world broadcasters, a bandscan of each of the recognised bands, as well as 'out of band' details. Two pages of SW free radio details, and a page of Clandestine information is also included. First time readers can avail themselves of a free copy of this 6 page, A4 publication

by writing to : SWN, 3 Greenway, Harold Park, Romford, Essex RM3 0HH..... Plenty of short wave news and details are included in the 16 pages of **FRS Goes DX** (No. 65). An interesting 2 page feature on Radio Scorpio, from Germany, is also included. This Dutch free radio magazine also includes a lot of offshore loggings and recent news, and it is entirely printed in English. More details from : FRS Holland, P.O. Box 41, 7700 AA Dedemsvaart, The Netherlands..... The December edition of **Communication** is now out, and contains masses of information for the DX - er on all bands, from both the legal and alternative radio world. A very useful feature in this edition, is the BDXC 'Guide to DX Programmes', which gives a day - by - day list, with station, time and frequency of the various DX shows on the air. Also included are the regular features of 'Alternative Airwaves', 'Tropical Band and H.F. Logbook', and the 'African Monitoring Survey'. Finally, another interesting section in this 28 page, A5 publication is the 'QSL Report'. This gives you a good idea how long replies take from various stations. 'Communication' is printed by the British DX Club, and more details can be obtained from the club secretary, Colin Wright at 54 Birkhall Road, Catford, London SE6 1TE..... December's edition of **Medium Wave News** also arrived this week, and as the name implies, specializes in reporting on medium wave DX ing, as well as giving plenty of hints on how to improve reception (a tuned mixer circuit and description in this issue). The results of the Sheigra DX - pedition in mid - November are also reported on in two pages. The regular sections (Verification, DX Loggings, DX News) are also all included. Other interesting articles are about identifying stations,

and also one man's story (Steve Whitt) about the hurricane of 16th October. Information on joining the Medium Wave Circle can be obtained from Harold Emblem, 137A Hampton Road, Southport, Merseyside PR8 5DY. We look forward to the next issue, to see what enormous North American logs there will be resulting from the lift of last week..... Postal delays meant Radiotelex was not received for review last week. Issue 112 is again 6 pages, with shortwave free radio logs (2 pages) for 15th - 29th November. The remaining 4 pages have bits of news about various stations, both already on the air, and proposed. To finish off this issue, there is a QSL survey, giving the length of time various shortwave free radio stations have taken to reply. Your SW information is welcomed at Radiotelex, c/o P.O. Box 10 37 71, D-2600 Bremen 1, West Germany. This is also the address for subscriptions to this two weekly publication..... **Now Radio Reports** gives news on the entire radio spectrum (ILR, BBC and alternative) which arrived too late for publication in **Now Radio Newsletter**, issued every two weeks. For your sample copies, contact **Now Radio Communications**, P.O. Box 45, Kettering, Northants. NN16 0NW..... The penultimate review this week, is of the all German language publication **D.P.M. Newsletter** (Nr. 16). This time, there are 12 x A5 page on all aspects of radio, slanting mainly towards that heard in Germany. The story of Radio Hundert - 6 is the main feature in this issue, which can be obtained from Fungemeinschaft - FG, Postfach 1130, D-4154 Tonisverst 1, West Germany..... **Current Pirate List 7** is this week's final arrival and lists in alphabetical order, approximately 150 shortwave stations, with their most recent known addresses. Also with this issue, is a log covering stations heard throughout November. For your copy, send 1 IRC to Stefan Printz, Apelvagen 13, 330 17 Rydaholm, Sweden.

TAPE OFFER. This week we start off in London for Tape 133, with the capital's newest station **CD 10 / 24**. As we reported last week, this station only started operation on 5th December, and intends to broadcast only on each Saturday, via the transmitter of TKO, on 102.4MHz. As their name implies, only compact discs are played, to give the station a better sound, and enabling them to use the slogan "music at the speed of light". Unlike TKO, there is no real music format, with everything from rock to reggae being played. Country music is our next stop for Tape 134. For this we visit Florida once more, and Orlando in particular, featuring **WWKA**, or "K - 92 FM" with a breakfast show from Tuesday 27th October. Finally this time around, Tape 135 comes from Chicago and **WBMX FM 102.7**. A breakfast show here with Doc Kilgore, from 4th November 1987 and a format of 'Urban Contemporary', which to us sounds like the disco/soul side of Top 40. All tapes are C.90 and all FM stereo this week. The cost of each remains, £2.00.

ADVERTISE IN WEEKLY REPORT. Your advert could appear on this page and be read by well in excess of 750 people. Send us your copy (what you want the advert to read), and some money (anything between £6 and £20, the latter being for a full page) and leave it to us. We guarantee results.

GENERAL. Please note, we are not printing on 27th December, but we are having a double issue the week after, 3rd January. Please send all news, logs, adverts, etc. in to us as usual, as we shall be compiling as normal.

A report just in tells us that Jessie Brandon, ex Laser 558, Nova Dublin and currently WTRG in Raleigh, is leaving and joining Radio Luxembourg, as from 15th December. We have no further news on this, but shall certainly check it out.

Many weeks ago, we re-printed on the front page of WR, an advert in a Roy Masters feature, for Select - A-Tenna. Guessing it was nothing to do with £10 or even \$10 notes, we eagerly sent off to Wisconsin and this week, were delighted to get back some details about a medium wave radio aerial, not dissimilar to our loop / frame antenna. The thing was, without question, the same as we produced, but, in looks, nothing like. We were most impressed and where we state with ours... 'amazing results have been achieved with their use', they say 'Incredible..... but it really works' and we are sure it does, and to find out how well, have sent off for one. We will let you know when it arrives (some weeks, we guess) and will review it and perhaps learn a few things from it. Apparently, they say they are even more useful over there, as many AM stations operate stereo and unless the signal is strong, the audio is hissy. These units are thus an essential item.

WANTED. Volunteers to send taped shows to a station in Dublin. Quality must be good.... send demo to Rythm FM, 16 Mountpleasant Sq., Ranelagh, Dublin 6, Eire.

SITUATIONS VACANT. **Radio Top Shop** require presenters.... send demo tape and CV to.... Heaton Knott & Co., 10 Woodsend Road, Flixton, Manchester M31 2QT.

ADVERTISEMENT.

SOUND DESIGN.

c/o P.O. Box 539, Blackpool FY1 4RE, England.

I have a number of refurbished cartridge machines available as follows.....

ITC Triple Stack Playback Mono.... IR£600.... £540.00

ITC Triple Stack Playback Stereo..IR£1000.... £900.00

Single Stereo Playback.....IR£400.... £360.00

Single Record & Playback Mono..IR£550.... £500.00

Other machines available - send for details.

Also available, new and boxed.....

AIWA FX-AI20 Multiplay Cassette Machine
IR£220..... £200.00

This is a dual cassette machine with a host of features. The left hand mechanism plays through up to 5 cassettes and gives a maximum play time of 7½ hours. The right hand mechanism plays and records with auto - reverse. Dubbing from left to right is available in two speeds and is programmable for up to 15 tracks. The deck also features Dolby B and C noise reduction and has metal tape facility.

The above prices do not include VAT or carriage.

If you need any further information, please feel free to contact me at the above address.

RADIO STATION NEWS....IRELAND. We understand that the proposed new Radio Bill was discussed once more in the Dail (Irish Parliament) during the week. From comments and thoughts of station operators, it certainly seems as though this time the legislation will finally become law, possibly before Christmas. If this is so, then a changeover period would obviously be required and operators are looking at the end of February before the un - successful applicants are finally forced to close down. However, anything can happen between now and Christmas, so we await with baited breath, the outcome.

Co. DUBLIN. As we went to print last Sunday, we had word of a new station, **Southside 95**, but were unable to include many details. The station did appear with its first day's programming last Monday, 7th December, with Peter Madison hosting the first show. Operating on 94.9MHz. in stereo, this new venture is headed by Paul Vincent, who also hosted the 09:00 programme (10:00 later in the week) on the station. He said they were broadcasting from the sea front in Dun Laoire. The signal is quite powerful, and was audible here in Blackpool on that first morning, despite only mediocre reception conditions. Conditions improved during the week, and this enabled us to listen a bit more. **Southside 95** has an address of Arden House, Coast Road, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. Their telephone number is (01) 805808 for requests etc., and (01) 802921 for advertising. The current line - up reads.... 07:00 Peter Madison, 10:00 Paul Vincent, 14:00 Tommy Green, 18:00 John Ford, 22:00 Close. Weekenders include Tony King, Tony Adams and Caroline Callaghan. People familiar with the Dublin scene over the years, will recognise not only names, but voices in that line - up. We wish them all the very best for the future.

Sunshine 101 were having few problems of their 846kHz. outlet one day during the week, with the audio being particularly distorted, although the problem was sorted out by the following morning. All other frequencies were operating as normal (100.3 / 100.7 / 101.1 / 101.5MHz., as well as 531kHz.) and all were audible here in Blackpool.

A letter in from Michael Mahon tells us that he is no longer employed by Radio Nova. He was not re-engaged when Energy closed, and left at quite short notice, unable to say his 'good - byes' to his regular weekend listeners. he says he hopes to be back on the air on some station after Christmas.

Radio Dublin are understood to be on 104.8MHz., despite us not being able to receive them here, due to low power being used. 1188kHz. can however be received normally, during daylight hours, but their SW outlet has not been noted, or reported for quite some time. The station recently celebrated 21 years on the air.....

RADIO DUBLIN

105 FM 1188AM

21st Anniversary Celebration

MONSTER DISCO

NATIONAL BALLROOM

PARNELL SQUARE

THURSDAY 3rd DECEMBER 1987

7 p.m.-2 a.m.

FUN — GAMES — SPOT PRIZES

AND

A spectacular demonstration of Taekwondo fighting and Breaking Techniques by the Irish Taekwondo Union (W.T.F.). National demonstration team. The new Olympic Sport.

TICKETS ONLY £3

available at • Record Shop Dublin Bazaar, Thomas St. • Freebird Records, Eden Quay. • Abbey Discs, Northside Shopping Centre. • Billy's Record Store, Finglas Shopping Centre. • Different Strokes, Ballyfermot Shopping Centre. • Daly's Foodstore, Tyrconnel Rd., Inchicore. • National Ballroom, Parnell Square.

Come and join us and celebrate our 21st Birthday with us Radio Dublin Ireland's longest running independent local radio station.

Co. CARLOW. Checking the MW band in the week, we settled on 1044kHz. and Carlow Community Radio. The signal was surprisingly good here, despite Radio 1 next door. The station duly identified and announced that locally they could be heard on 97.5MHz., in addition to 1044kHz. (290m.). Masses of adverts were aired, which is not surprising in the run up to Christmas, and the music content was one of easy listening in the Jim Reeves style. The station address was given out as.... 44 Castle Hill, Carlow... Tel: (0503) 43374.

Co. LOUTH. John in Dundalk tells us that the only big news over the last week or two, is the massive competition which has sprung up amongst the stations in his area. It seems that each of them is trying to prove that they are the ones eligible for the one licence to be granted in that area. Radio Carousel have introduced a new 250 watt

transmitter on 99.25MHz., stereo, as have Radio Rainbow on 96.0MHz., in mono.

Co. MONAGHAN. The action still continues in this county, with all six stations now being on air. The two most recent, and long promised, have both emerged over the past days. Kiss FM being one of them, was mentioned in this column last week. Broadcasting with only modest power on 103.7MHz. from the border, the signal is aimed, naturally enough, towards Belfast. A two hour loop tape can be heard with identifications, in mono. We have not as yet, been successful in receiving this one, despite most others from the same area, no doubt due to the low power, plus the fact that 'local' (!) BBC Radio York dominates this frequency here. On the other hand the second of these new stations is coming in loud and clear on 100.9MHz. We first noticed it on Saturday evening (12th), with continuous music. The signal is reported locally to be in stereo and if rumours are anything to go by, the station could commence shortly, identifying itself as KITS FM, which seems a little odd as the other one is identifying as 'The Heat is on, 103.7 KISS FM'. We await to see the outcome on this one. With all the new activity on the FM band, Big 'M' Community Radio have moved their transmitter on 105.0MHz., first to 104.6MHz., then to 99.7MHz., and can now be heard in stereo. Finally in this county, a carrier was noted on Monday last at 22:00, on 104.7MHz. The direction was Monaghan, but the transmitter cut off suddenly, shortly afterwards.

Co. GALWAY. The disappearance of Kandy Radio in Ballinasloe, from 1404kHz., has now been confirmed, by correspondents and by ourselves checking the AM band. The station has sold the AM transmitter and is concentrating on FM only (we wonder is this wise in this area). Meanwhile the transmitter is reported to be now in Loughrea and about to come on the air, under new ownership, although nothing has been heard as yet.

Co. DONEGAL. Despite spells of quite good FM - DX, we have been unable to hear WABC from Inishowen Head, on 107.0MHz. Poor AM conditions has meant that we could not hear them on their medium wave outlet of 1242kHz. either. Our Belfast colleagues can throw no light on the matter, and we wonder if the station is off the air at all.

LIBERTY 104FM

— the people's station 1035AM. Phone 538870.

XMAS TOY APPEAL 1987

HELP THE UNDERPRIVILEGED
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**FR. MICHAEL CLEARY,
LIBERTY 104, 16 WEAVER
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• Fr. Michael Cleary.

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Call our Sales
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LIBERTY RADIO IRISH TOP 10

1. Scorn Not His Simplicity — Luke Kelly.
2. Red Rose Cafe — Furey Bros.
3. The Black Sheep — Foster & Allen.
4. Now I'm Easy — Ronnie Drew.
5. Candlelight & Wine — Fiddler's Green.
6. Grace — Jim McCann.
7. Ringsend Rose — Pat Ryan & Cupla.
8. Rose Katie — Mary Black.
9. Carry On — Boru.
10. Do You Know I Love You? — Main Street.

Tune in each Sunday morning to the Ballad Show
with Therese for the Irish Top 10 chart.

OFFSHORE STATIONS...ISRAEL...THE VOICE OF PEACE.

The recent strike by the state radio station, Kol Israel, is now over and things appear to be returning to normal, as far as programming is concerned. This is not good news for the VOP, who have been cashing in on the station's absence from the airwaves. Tim Shepherd has now left and returned to the U.K. His place has been taken by a former D.J. from about seven years ago, Kenny Page. The line - up on 2nd December read.... 00:00 Kenny Page, 03:00 Ian Hudson, 06:00 John McDonald, 09:00 Neil Armstrong, 13:00 Steve Richards, 16:00 Ian Hudson, 18:00 Steve Richards, 19:30

John McDonald, 22:00 Neil Armstrong.

The station is presently looking for a cook, a transmitter engineer and D.J.'s, so if anyone fancies a six month stint out there, give us a call on (0253) 882017.

(Basildon) Evening Echo....Friday 27th Nov. '87.

Pirates' ferryman is jailed

BOATMAN Howard Beer received a warning shot across his bows when he was fined £500 for ferrying supplies to the pop pirates of Radio Caroline.

But less than three weeks later Beer was back on the high seas taking sightseers out to visit the broadcasting buccaneers.

Yesterday, at Southend Crown Court, he was scuppered for nine months after a legal broadside from Judge Gordon Rice.

Jailing Beer, the judge told him: "People like you play an essential role in the promulgation of these illegal broadcasts."

Beer, 31, of Seaview Road, Shoebury, admitted that two years ago he took a boatload of sightseers out to the station's transmission vessel the Ross Revenge, knowing that it was a source of illegal programmes.

The converted trawler was moored in the Knock Deep, 18 miles out from Clacton.

Mr Oliver Sells, for the Department of Trade and Industry, told the court that inspectors monitoring the ship

By TIM STOUT

saw Beer's speed boat Swift draw up alongside.

He said: "A number of people went aboard as Inspector Michael Hawkins watched through binoculars."

"Swift was stopped returning with her passengers to the River Crouch."

Beer told the inspectors he had taken them out for a sightseeing trip.

He claimed: "I warned them that they would be breaking the law if they went aboard the Ross Revenge, but some did so all the same."

The court heard that two weeks before he was caught Beer had been fined £500 by Southend magistrates for ferrying goods to the Radio Caroline operators.

Counsel Mr Robert Gifford said: "A friend had asked him to use his pleasure boat to take a birthday party to the pop vessel."

"They were aboard it for two hours, but Beer stayed on his boat."

After his previous court case Beer had repeatedly phoned the Department seeking clarification of the legal position concerning ferry trips to the Ross Revenge, but had got no satisfactory reply.

Judge Rice commented: "With his conviction less than three weeks old, one would have thought he would have avoided the boat like the plague."

RADIO CAROLINE. We left the station off the air last Sunday afternoon. They returned to the air at approximately 15:11 and as far as we could tell continued un - interrupted after this. Despite the low power currently in use, 24 hour operation was once again implemented until Thursday (10th). The line up was the same as before the mast fell, except for Tony Peters replacing Kevin Turner on the 'breakfast show'. Thus we had : 05:00 Tony Peters... 09:00 Keith Francis... 13:00 Nigel Harris... 17:00 Tim Allen... 21:00 Chris Kennedy... 01:00 Pat Brooks. The station left the air sometime between 19:00 and 23:00 on Thursday. Friday saw some strange happenings on the station, with a late sign - on, somewhere between 06:00 and 06:30. When programmes did commence, Steve Conway had returned to the ship and was heard on the breakfast show. He announced that this was a 'one off', and added that 'Newsweek News' and 'Travel News' would return on Monday. The latest Lotto 6 /49 winning numbers were also read out during Steve's show. More changes in the schedule were to follow, with Chris Kennedy hosting from 10:00 until 14:00. At 14:00, there was a real surprise. Probably fed up with not being in front of a microphone, one of the Radio Monique staff proceeded to host a show during the afternoon. He told us his name was Luc and he was Flemish, although his English was reported to be very good. He programmed through till 18:00 when the station officially closed down for the evening. Programmes for Saturday (12th) revealed that only two English D.J.'s were left on the ship, these being Chris Kennedy and Steve Conway. This resulted in the following schedule.... 06:00 Chris Kennedy, 10:00 Steve Conway, 14:00 Chris Kennedy, 16:00 Steve Conway, 18:00 Close. Chris also signed on the station this morning, at

06:00, but at 08:14, mid - record, the transmitter cut off and at the time of writing (14:30) had not returned. Therefore, we leave the station, once again, off the air. We assume that Tim Allen, Tony Peters, Pat Brooks, Nigel Harris and Keith Francis have all left the ship.

Replacement parts are expected to put the station up in power slightly, and also get Radio Monique and Viewpoint 819 back on the air. Some of these possibly arrived with the staff change. Due to di - plexer and transmitter matching problems, only one service can currently be operated at any one time. A power of between 2 and 3 kW is expected to be obtainable with the current aerial system, once a proper insulator has been fitted. It is not known at this time, when work will begin on erecting a new tower(s).

LAND - BASED STATIONS.

Before we start this section, we re - print below a rather amusing section of a recently printed book by David Lodge, called 'Changing Places'. The book is a novel about an American professor visiting Britain, and this piece features some of his thoughts when he turned on Radio 1.

He had a brief honeymoon with Radio One that turned into a kind of sado-masochistic marriage. Waking early in the Rummidge hotel on that morning when his breath turned to steam, he had flicked on his transistor and listened to what he took, at the time, to be a very funny parody of the worst kind of American AM radio, based on the simple but effective formula of having non-commercial commercials. Instead of advertising products, the disc-jockey advertised *himself* - pouring out a torrent of drivel generally designed to convey what a jolly, amusing and lovable guy he was - and also advertised his listeners, every one of whose names and addresses he seemed determined to read out over the air, plus, on occasion, their birthdays and car registration numbers. Now and again he played musical jingles in praise of himself or reported, in tones of unremitting jollity, a multiple accident on the freeway. There was almost no time left for playing records. It was a riot. Morris thought it was a little early in the morning for satire, but listened entranced. When the programme finished and was followed by one of exactly the same kind, he began to get restive. The British, he thought, must be gluttons for satire: even the weather forecast seemed to be some kind of spoof, predicting every possible combination of weather for the next twenty-four hours without actually committing itself to anything specific, not even the existing temperature. It was only after four successive programmes of almost exactly the same formula - DJ's narcissistic gabble, lists of names and addresses, meaningless anti-jingles - that the awful truth dawned on him: *Radio One was like this all the time.*

MERSEYSIDE. We left the listening post last Sunday afternoon, with all three medium wave stations in operation, plus **Veronica 104** (104.75MHz.). Veronica carried on throughout the evening until Neil Frazer signed the station off at 22:15, with 'Land of Hope and Glory'. The new schedule now seems to be settled, with programming now going out between 15:00 and 22:15 each Sunday. The 'Offshore Tapes' programme which is normally transmitted between 17:00 and 18:00, was missing due to Radio Caroline not being on the air, and hence no recent recordings available. The music we heard on this station last Sunday, whilst printing the report, can only be described as quite refreshing. The audio too, started out very good, but as the evening went on, too high a level was being put into the transmitter and the end result was very distorted audio, which was a great pity.

Monday saw both **North Coast Radio** (1350kHz) and **Radio Merseywaves** (1242kHz.) finishing off their 4 day weekend schedule. When we tuned in on Friday lunchtime (13:15), there was no activity to be heard from this area on the medium wave band. At this point we were wondering whether the DTI had struck, as they had been active in Birmingham several days previously. **North Coast Radio** was then noted with continuous music at around 14:15, on the usual frequency of 1350kHz. The D.J. was announcing they had a few technical problems, as well as a 'format' problem, which meant that N.C.R. would only be on the air for three days this time, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The same D.J. had his three year old daughter in the studio, and she proceeded to get into the limelight, and took over the show at several points!

Radio Merseywaves was not noted by us at all on Friday. Yesterday, NCR were joined by Radio Atlantis on 1197kHz., although programmes from the former were late to start. Although not heard here, it was reported that Eastham Community Radio were on the air, on their slightly higher frequency of 105.4MHz. They announced that this would be their last broadcast until the New Year. What was assumed to be Radio Merseywaves' carrier was noted most of the morning, accompanied by a 50Hz. buzz., although no programmes ensued. We hear that the station is preparing to put its big transmitter (Chernobyl) on the air over Christmas, and possibly will be relayed on FM, as they were last Christmas. On Sunday, nothing at all was heard from RMW, not even the carrier. NCR and Radio Atlantis, however, appeared as normal. These two were joined by Veronica 104 at 15:00, on 104.72MHz. As we print, they are still broadcasting, with a good signal, good audio and good music. However, before RV came on, another less powerful operator was noted on the very slightly lower frequency of 104.68, with a poor signal, possibly from a different location. Continuous music was heard, but an ID for Veronica was clearly heard. At around 16:00, another operator was heard tuning up in the same area, but as we go ahead and print, we have not ascertained whether he has settled anywhere and come on air, or what exactly has happened.

Finally, North Coast Radio have been heavily promoting their Christmas Party to be held at Moreton Youth Club, Pasture Road, Moreton, on Tuesday 22nd December. It starts at 19:30 and runs until 22:30. Tickets are £1 and this includes free raffle. Most of the NCR D.J.'s expect to be there and they tell us that the event will go ahead even if the station happens to be off the air for any reason.

LONDON.

Capital Radio

Mr. Bowis: To ask the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster what action he is taking to stop the interference by a Greek pirate radio station affecting Capital Radio's signal to large areas of London.

Mr. Maude: My Department's radio investigation service has already seized an unmanned radio transmitter operating on a frequency of 95.5MHz and broadcasting in the Greek language. As the station appears to have returned to the air, investigations are continuing.

The above extract is from Parliament's 'Written Answers' of 17th November 1987. Since then, London Greek Radio are now believed to have moved to 88.4MHz., which is well clear of any other London stations. However, this weekend, probably much to the dismay of the DTI and Capital Radio, yet another Greek station, the name of which has yet to be determined, has emerged just above Capital, around 96.0MHz.

Following a good response last Saturday for the new station CD 10 / 24, the station was eagerly awaited by our reporters this weekend. However, the station failed to appear, instead, TKO (102.4) put out its own programming of the usual rapping / disco format. Does anyone know why they did not appear, as they specifically stated that they would be on the air each Saturday.

London Wide Radio (LWR) have not been on the air all week, presumably as a result of the heavy DTI activity of late. On Saturday, however, they did appear, but on a slightly different frequency of 92.3MHz. RJR have also been missing for a number of days, but were finally heard back on air today, on 90.0MHz. Other stations missing this week (at least not audible in North East London), were... Starpoint/K - Jazz, Soul FM/Passion, Chicago 87 and Hits FM. The following have been duly heard and reported with more or less no breaks.... LGR on 88.4, Community Development Radio (CDR) on 88.6, RJR on 90.0, Rock to Rock on 90.4, KSR on 90.9, Sky FM on 91.7, LWR on 92.3, Studio 1 on 92.6, Solar FM on 93.0, Kiss FM on 93.9, Rock FM on 94.3, City Radio on 94.4, Girls FM on 97.0, Traffic Jam on 97.8, TKO on 102.4, Fresh FM on 103.3, Time FM on 103.7, JBC on 104.4 and Raiders FM on 105.2MHz. An Asian station on 90.95 has also been heard, possibly Sina Radio as well

as another Greek (Greek Community Radio) on 104.1MHz.

We must apologise for the non - appearance of Sid's 'London Weekend Survey' for last week. You can probably guess where it is! We shall extend next week's London section to cover the extra news we shall hopefully have by then.

THE SOUTH COAST. A report in during the week mentioned that popular France - based station, RBL had been heard in the 105MHz. region of the band. As they usually broadcast on 91.6MHz., it is possible that one of the Eastbourne based pirates may well have been testing, using RBL's excellent signal.



ESSEX. Canvey Radio returned to the airwaves last Sunday, following the operator's recent high fine. They were heard with test transmissions on 93.1MHz., from 19:00. Due to the fact that Canvey Radio operates from about sea level, another station has begun operating in the area, a little higher up, called Radio Canvey North. They should be on this evening from 19:00 till 22:00, on 90.8MHz.FM, in stereo. The power on this one is 50 watts. Competitions are to be held, we understand.

Stomp FM which also operated each Sunday from Essex, have not been noted these past two Sundays.

KENT. Just across the Thames, a station called Kent Soul Radio (KSR) have been noted for the past few weekends on 90.9MHz. Their signal has been blanked around the London area by Faze 1, who normally operate on this frequency. However, this week, they were noted due to the latter station being off the air. KSR features club disc jockeys and is normally on the air Friday nights from 19:00 until 00:00 and Saturdays from 10:00 until 22:00, although these hours, staff permitting, may be extended.

RENFREWSHIRE. Last week we reported that Neon Radio (103.9MHz) had an attempted raid on their transmitting site, during which, there was a confrontation between the site staff, and a Park Ranger. We now have the full details on the scene, and the resulting assault on the Ranger. The site being used, belonged to the Local Authority, and shortly after sign on last Saturday (5th December), the Park Ranger came along and asked the staff to move along, and remove the equipment from the council property. During the following few minutes, there was a scuffle and the Ranger was hit with a pole. The local Constabulary are now looking for this on site staff member with a view to prosecution for assault. As a result of this nasty incident, four of the station's presenters have now left (Bill Barr, Dave C.L. Young, and the two presenters of the Anorak Show, Bob and Alex), disowning the person who assaulted the Ranger. Local newspapers had the incident as front page, with the resulting bad publicity for free radio. Obviously, the local people are now against the offending person. The station was heard testing last Sunday afternoon, as well as on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings, but following the bad press reports have not been heard since. The four staff who left because of the incident, hope to be back on the air soon, as Riverside Community Radio (raided several months ago), which is almost ready to be re activated.

RIVERSIDE
~~~~~  
**COMMUNITY RADIO**

**103.4**  
**STEREO FM**

**INDEPENDANT COMMUNITY RADIO FOR WEST RENFREWSHIRE**

No reports of Radio Mercury having been heard this



week have reached us. They are understood to still be wanting to hear from anyone willing to do programmes for them. The music played on the station is mainly disco /rapping orientated.

**MIDLANDS.** Lots of activity last Monday, in this area presumably by the Department of Trade and Industry. All three seven day per week stations were on the air as normal on Monday afternoon. However between 18:15 and 18:50, both **Radio P.C.R.L.** (103.6MHz.) and **Enterprise FM** (90.9MHz.) had disappeared. The other station, **Second City Radio** (95.05MHz.) was still operating in stereo. Enterprise FM were back on the air by 21:00 the same evening, and continued through until Tuesday evening, when they were once again noted missing. No explanation for these breaks has been given. P.C.R.L. were not noted again until Tuesday morning, still in mono, although by Thursday afternoon, stereo transmissions had once again been introduced on 103.55MHz. This station has been promoting several parties, including a 'P.C.R.L. Children's Christmas Party', and a 'P.C.R.L. Senior Citizen's Party'. Enterprise possibly have three different transmitting sites, as changes in reception strength can often be detected, without the station actually leaving the air for a long period.

**Sunshine Radio** (1017kHz.) were giving out a telephone number of 74280, and also a mailing address of Sunshine Radio, Ludlow, Shropshire. Both telephone and contact address were being used for reception reports. Look out on 1017kHz. over the Christmas period, as Sunshine Radio may be operating for several days over the festive period. The station was not reported to be on air, today. The only other activity was **Soul City Radio** (103.75) who were on the air this morning.

**YORKSHIRE, HUMBERSIDE and DERBYSHIRE.** In Leeds, **ABC - FM** (105.15MHz.) have been operating continuously this week, and the new frequency is giving good results, as the station is not now squashed between local legal stations. (It used to operate on 94.6MHz.) It was even received here in Blackpool for a time last Sunday evening at around 22:15, although the signal was weak. Also received here on Sunday night was **Radio Veronica** (105.5MHz.) from Bradford. The signal was reasonable here, but apparently was getting out very well to the South, including Cheshire and Derbyshire. **Music City Radio** (90.3MHz.) is also still continuing with its weekend only broadcasting.

A station thought to be emanating from the West Yorkshire area was heard on Saturday, 5th December, on 105MHz. Continuous station identifications were being played, including those from ABC, Veronica, Soundwaves 105, Music City Radio, Radio Freedom, Ocean Sound and others. The report was from Grimsby, and the beam of the aerial indicated the Leeds / Bradford direction. Another mystery station, this time heard in the Chesterfield area of Derbyshire, is on 105.9MHz., with continuous music, followed by just a carrier. A hum is also present on the signal.

**WLNG** were heard on 3rd December, with an apparently better signal than previously heard. Test transmissions were in progress between 20:15 and 23:15.

**MANCHESTER.** Following the raid on **Independent Community Radio** two weeks ago, nothing was heard until Friday 4th December, when low power transmissions were noted on 103.5MHz. The signal was just audible in Stockport. The signal was still a little weak and distorted the following day, Saturday, but after a period off the air, the signal increased in the early evening, although the audio was still a problem. The station seemed to be having a few problems, as many periods of just a blank carrier were heard, and during programming, the distorted audio was still present up until our last report on 8th December.

**WKLR** (97.0MHz.) are now understood to have closed down until around the Christmas period, due to other commitments. They were most recently heard on Wednesday 25th November from 19:40 - 00:01, with much improved audio and signal strength. Transmissions were also noted the following evening between 19:30 and 02:00, which included Simon Richards and Neil Ash doing a four hour special transmission. Finally, on Sunday 29th November they were heard once more in the evening, until closedown at 23:00.

Also audible in the Manchester / Stockport area, for those DX - ers who are tuning around, are Veronica 104 (104.75 from Liverpool), Radio Veronica (105.5 from Bradford), occasionally along with Radio Nova (99.9) and Sunshine 101 (100.3) both of which come from Dublin.

#### SHORTWAVE STATIONS...Log for Sunday 13th Dec. 1987.

6204kHz...**RADIO PAMELA INT.**, at 12:00gmt.  
6232kHz...**BORDER RADIO**, at 10:00gmt.  
6240kHz...'**RON'S MESSAGE FROM GOD**', at 11:55gmt.  
6264kHz...**RADIO HUITZILOPOCHTLI**, at 11:49gmt.  
6265kHz...**RADIO ELECTRA**, at 10:28gmt.  
6268kHz...**RADIO TUTENCHAMEN**, at 10:40gmt  
6268kHz...**INDIAN OCEAN B.C.Co.**, at 11:00gmt.  
6275kHz...**RADIO WAVES INT.**, at 09:18gmt.  
6275kHz...**RADIO LIMIT**, at 10:05gmt.  
6280kHz...**UNID.**, at 09:45gmt.  
6280kHz...**RADIO ANDREA INT.**, at 09:53gmt.  
6280kHz...**WESTSIDE RADIO INT.**, at 11:15gmt.  
6285kHz...**KIWI RADIO**, at 09:30gmt.  
6285kHz...**RADIO APOLLO INT.**, at 10:38gmt.  
6290kHz...**RADIO ORION**, at 09:34gmt.  
6292kHz...**P.F.B.S.**, at 10:50gmt.  
6299kHz...**BORDER RADIO**, at 09:29gmt.  
6299kHz...**WFRL**, at 10:15gmt.  
6299kHz...**UNID. (German)**, at 12:45gmt.  
6306kHz...**KLA RADIO**, at 11:43gmt.  
6313kHz...**UNID.**, at 12:20gmt.  
6318kHz...**BEATLE RADIO**, at 09:27gmt.  
6318kHz...**RADIO MARABU**, at 10:15gmt.  
6318kHz...**WLR**, at 12:05gmt.  
6725kHz...**EUROPEAN MUSIC RADIO**, at 10:43gmt.  
6850kHz...**RADIO SKYWAVE INT.**, at 10:48gmt.  
7361kHz...**RADIO 101**, at 09:16gmt.  
7361kHz...**RADIO JOYSTICK**, at 09:43gmt.  
7408kHz...**UNID.**, at 11:28gmt.  
7423kHz...**RADIO STELLA INT.**, at 10:46gmt.  
7423kHz...**WLR**, at 12:15gmt.  
7430kHz...**WLR**, at 11:15gmt.  
7433kHz...**DUTCH RELAY SERVICE**, at 11:05gmt.  
7489kHz...**UNID.**, at 13:05gmt.

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Shortwave conditions seem to have settled down over the past few weeks, and are now relatively good for most of the morning, with very few sudden variations in signal levels, which we were suffering from during the Summer. Thanks to today's loggers who telephoned us reports from Devon, the Midlands and Bremen, West Germany (Radiotelex). The **BOLD** logs were made by ourselves in Blackpool.

Radio Pamela announced that their next transmission would be on Christmas day, also on 6204kHz. The religious broadcasts on 6240kHz., via the transmitters of Rainbow Radio Int. were not the same as normal, that is, Good News Radio, but from another source. The address given out on the air was... Ron Smith, 8 Old Mill Row, off Trinity Street, Drogheda, Co. Louth, Eire. The unidentified station on 6270kHz. was just playing continuous music, and the transmitter suddenly cut off. No speech was heard at all. The other unidentified station on 6280kHz. was being relayed shortly before Radio Andrea, via Westside Radio International. A Radio ?????? Int. was heard mentioned. The transmissions on 6299kHz. were very low in modulation, and difficult to follow at times. Later on around lunchtime, a German station was heard on this channel, but no identification was noted by us. One expert logger informed us that WFRL and Border Radio were from two separate transmitters. The unidentified German may have been relayed by either, if indeed, it was a relay at all.

KLA Radio have informed us that the station will be on the air over the festive period on both, Christmas Day and Boxing Day. They will also be doing programmes on Sunday, 3rd January, and possibly New Year's Day. The frequencies to watch out for on these mornings are 6306kHz. and 6525kHz. The unidentified station on 6313kHz. was thought to be Radio Santana. Apparently they had been on the air on Saturday, on the same channel. WLR were testing frequencies and are known to have been responsible for the Unid. on 7489kHz.

\*\*\*\*\*

Our thanks to everyone again, for the contributions to this week's issue, whether posted or telephoned in. Please continue as normal over the holidays, as we shall be compiling as normal, despite not printing on 27th December.

Any broadcaster or magazine may use the logs or any of the information contained within the pages of 'WR' at any time, provided credit is given to A-UK.

Finally, may we ask that Access card holders who wish to order by telephone, please do so during office hours, that is, 09:00 to 17:30 Monday to Friday.



# \*\*\*\*\* **The WEEKLY** **REPORT** **ANORAKS** **The First with the News in Print** \*\*\*\*\*

No. 190.....20th December 1987. P.O. Box 539, BLACKPOOL FY1 4RE, England.

Welcome to the final edition of Weekly Report for this year. We are not printing next week, due to the way the holiday falls, but will be back the week after, which is Sunday 3rd January, with a double issue. This is likely to be an extra thick edition (it might even have more than 12 pages and we may even staple it, but don't hold us to that!) and should arrive promptly and with little delay, for a change.

We should like to thank everyone sincerely for all the help which has been forthcoming throughout 1987. The sending of information, news, newspaper cuttings, photographs, recordings, videos and all the other things, has made Weekly Report as up to date and accurate as one could possibly wish. We do hope you have enjoyed the contents over the past year and trust that 1988 will see another year of continued help and support on your behalf. A very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year to you all.

**WEEKLY REPORT & CUTTINGS** is produced, printed and posted out on Sundays, from Blackpool. Weekly subscription rates are thus.... First Class (U.K.), plus EEC countries (inc. Eire), 35p..... Second Class (U.K. only), 30p..... EEC countries (Finland, Sweden, Switzerland, etc.), 40p..... Elsewhere (via Air Mail), 50p. You may subscribe for as many weeks as you wish and now might just be the time to do that, as subscription rates will have to increase once postal charges rise. We expect this to be in the next three months and the rise will be 5p per week all round, this of course, will take into account increased printing charges we are being confronted with. Existing subscriptions will stand and subscribers will not be asked to pay the increase, so feel free to 'invest' if you end up with some spare money this Christmas.

**The ANORAKS U.K. INFO - LINE.** Ring this number now and hear a three minute up - date on news, since the last report, (0795) 511118. The number operates at all times of the day or night, seven days per week and we shall be paying special attention to up - dates over Christmas, whilst WR has a week off, so give us a call. If you have news or simply wish to say Happy Christmas to us, then ring (0795) 511119 and leave your message after the whistle tone. Enquiries about subscriptions or merchandise must be directed to our address in Blackpool and not left as messages on the info -line.

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**NEW MERCHANDISE.** Arriving just in time for Christmas is the latest edition of **Offshore Echo's Magazine** (No. 69). This issue contains 68 x A5 pages of news, loggings, stories and interviews from the world of Offshore Radio. There is a follow up article (to several pages in OEM 68) on Radio NewYork International, featuring over 10 new photographs of the m.v. Sarah, the studio and its crew. The regular and detailed 'goings - on', both on Radios Caroline and Monique, as well as the 'Voice of Peace' (for October and November), are included in this issue, along with lengthy interviews with John Tyler and Jamie King. The 'Where are They Now' section covers several Radio London personnel. International radio news also has a section of its own, to make this issue of OEM one of the best yet. The cost is £1.90, including postage and packing, to our usual address..... We are pleased to say that we have in stock once again, 7" copies of the very much in demand record "**Man of Action**" by Les Reed Orchestra. These are brand new and are on the European 'Br. Music' label. The recording is stereo and the disc comes in a picture bag and features the Mebo II. The price is £3.50..... Anyone reading some of the other radio magazines available, cannot have failed to notice that our most recent set of colour photographs on the merchandise list, is the topic of much discussion. The set in question is called 'The Communicator Collection' and features shots, taken during October, of the new masts lying on the deck. Priced at £3.00 for the set of 6 Jumbo prints, it may be an idea to order a set now, before it is too late and we sell out (or someone decides to slap an injunction on us to restrain us from marketing them any longer!)..... Due to the fact that Radio Caroline is currently on extremely low power, some listeners, even in the South East of the country, are experiencing great difficulty in receiving even a reasonable signal. Whilst our loop / frame aerial won't make the signal as good as before, it will certainly make a great improvement to what you can get at present, during

the day. For just £28.00, which includes postage and packing, a whole new world of medium wave listening opens up. Amazing results have been achieved with their use. Now may just be the time to buy, as we have ample supplies in stock, all eager and ready to work for you.

**NEW ARRIVALS.** Radiotelex, Issue 113 has 8 x A5 sides of very recent logs and news from the world of SW. A sample copy for 1 x IRC, or further details from.... RT, c/o Postbus 10 37 71, D - 2800 Bremen 1, West Germany..... **Now Radio**, Issue 42 is a bumper edition and contains 36 pages, packed with radio news from across the spectrum. Details on this one from P.O. Box 45, Kettering, Northants. NN16 0NW..... **Play - DX**, Issue 485 consists of 6 x A4 sides of long distance logs and news, in English, some Italian and some Spanish. Further information on this one from Dario Monferini, via Davanzati 8, 20580 Milano, Italy..... Finally this week, yet another new book from Hans Knot. This latest one is entitled '**De Kleintjes van de Noordzee**' and covers the history of the smaller stations, 270, Scotland and Capital. Excellently presented with just short of 120 pages, with pictures, cuttings and letters re - produced. Unfortunately (for the English), the text is entirely in the Dutch language. The price is 25 Dutch Guilders which includes postage and packing. We shall possibly have supplies of this book at a later date, but for now, further details can be obtained from Hans Knot, Postbus 102, 9700 AC Groningen, The Netherlands.

**TAPE OFFER.** Due to there not being a report next week, and the fact that we have had an influx of interesting recordings recently, we have decided to offer four recordings this time around. The first two come from the U.S. and include one AM and one FM tape. On Tape 136 we continue with our series of 'speech' orientated radio stations from New York. Side A features the AM service of that station we have featured the FM 'rock' programmes of many times, **WNEW**. WNEW - AM is another of those signals which crosses the Atlantic during each Winter, and can often be heard



in Europe on 1130kHz. Unlike most of the other stations, WNEW AM does actually feature as much music as speech. The format is 'old time' or 'big band' style. One interesting thing we noticed about this station, was that it still used plenty of jingles, and also an intro to the news, which the FM stations have tended to drop these days. Side B contains WABC AM (770kHz.). WABC used to be one of the top U.S. radio stations as far as pop music was concerned. However with the growing popularity of FM, around five years ago, the owners chose to change the format to news and current affairs which still remains to this day. Both the above recordings are mono, and feature breakfast shows from 7th December. Almost two thousand miles further West, and we reach Minneapolis, Minnesota for Tape 137. Here, WTBX - FM, who describe themselves as the 'Hot FM', put out a signal over a wide area, with 100kW ERP. This station is understood to be entirely automated, with the adverts and station ID's also being inserted automatically, as well as the music being changed in this way. This recording is in stereo. The Voice of Peace is our next selection for Tape 138. This recording was made on 5th December, and was recorded off - air from their stereo FM service on 100MHz. Two presenters, Kenny Page and Neil Armstrong, one on each side are featured on this cassette, which is of the night - time programming from the station. For the fourth offer this week, we travel to the Irish Republic, where the return of Radio Nova, and its subsequent merger with Energy 103, to form Nova Power 103 was only to be short lived (see explanation in this week's Irish section). As we didn't actually offer a recording of the 'new' Radio Nova ('The Hot 100') at the time, Tape 139 delves back to November 19th, when, Niall McGowen and Brendan Dowling were heard with links in between playing only music from compact disc. News is also featured on this recording, as the station linked up with Energy, for 'Independent Radio News' each hour. As usual, all recordings are made on either TDK or Maxell C-90 cassettes, and cost just £2.00 each. All previous tapes are still available and on request, we will forward you a list of same.

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Please request complete information, sending 1 x IRC for ID's tapes catalogue, which details contents. If you prefer to order directly, please request the tapes you prefer.

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Dealer's enquiries are welcome.

Please order from: "DX - ing LA on tapes", c/o Julian Anderson, P.O. Box 57 - Suc.40, 1440 - Buenos Aires, Argentina.

\*\*\*\*\*  
GENERAL. Very many thanks for the hundreds of Christmas cards and best wishes sent of late. We really appreciate the support we have. If you missed out on the Anoraks U.K. Christmas card, for any reason (you moved house, the postman lost it, the dog ate it!), give us a call, we still have a few

left. They were posted out with Issue 188 of Weekly Report, on 6th December.

Make sure you get Issue 191/192, dated 3rd January 1988, and look out for our 'January Sale' which starts then. Lots of bargains, plus items not previously offered (usually due to having insufficient quantities to include in the merchandise list). In addition to all the holiday news, activity and logs, read our 'New Year Resolutions', what we would like see happen, and predictions for the year. Please continue to send news in at the usual times, as we shall be feeding all the information into the computer beforehand, and not leaving it all till 3rd January.

Congratulations to ex Laser 558 P.D., John Catlett, who has landed the same job with the proposed Radio Tara. This appointment makes the whole project suddenly seem a great deal more exciting, when one remembers back to 1984 on the North Sea. Roll on next Autumn!

WANTED. Final hour (or more) of Radio Caroline 558, before the mast collapsed... Contact Alan Atkinson, 11 Manby Road, Gorleston, Gt. Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31 0PQ.

FOR HIRE. The powerful and comprehensive transmitters of Rainbow Radio Int. are available to anyone for a mere £10 per hour. Would - be operators are asked why take the risk and go to great expense, when for this meagre amount, it can be guaranteed that people will hear your station relayed off your own high quality cassette, made in your own studios, and at your leisure. The frequencies used are.... SW, 6240kHz., with a very strong signal covering the British Isles and North West Europe (conditions permitting), MW, 1521kHz., with a strong signal reaching the West of Britain and East of Ireland, and locally on FM. No other relay station can offer coverage such as this, and for such a reasonable charge. Simply send us your 1 hour tape and £10 (Sterling or Irish) and leave the rest to us.

FOR SALE. In the event of not enough hirers from the above advert, the whole Rainbow operation is for sale. 400 watt SW, 1 kw medium wave and 50 watt FM stereo. Going very cheap.... please contact Heady Eddie, 151 Moneymore, Drogheda, Co. Louth.

RADIO STATION NEWS...IRELAND. DUBLIN.

Strange things indeed, are happening in this city. The return of Nova and the merge with Energy Power 103, to become Nova Power 103 all seem to have been very short - lived, as, in the week, one of our keen eared local listeners told us that the station seemed to have dropped the 'Nova' tag in all ID's and mentions, plus on the hour as well. We duly checked this out and were quite astonished to hear them identify as just 'Power 103'. Nothing else had altered however. A quick call to one of our reporters revealed that there had been an item in one of the papers indicating that the (previous Nova) liquidator had taken the existing Nova operators to the High Court and the result was that they had been restrained from using the word 'Nova' to describe the current operation. The reporter thought the restriction may also apply to the word 'Energy' also, but apparently not so, as further checks revealed that the station was identifying as **Energy Power 103** once again and is doing as we go to print. We are totally confused, and feel sure that listeners must be completely bewildered. A rumour circulating the city, says that Q may be trying to buy out Nova, or vice versa, but no foundation to such rumour can be established.

**Q 102** had planned each morning this past week, to do a 'Santa Run' with Mike Hogan and Santa in the 'Eye in the Sky'. Hospitals were to be visited and presents distributed amongst the children. However, the first two mornings, this unfortunately did not happen due to Airport Control grounding the helicopter due to fog. The rest of the week they made up for this, with plenty of visits. The Q102/Focus Point Appeal was still being run this week. Listeners were asked to contribute £1 to the appeal, at 8 Upper Mount Street. It was hoped each listener would do this, thus enabling the station to give several thousands of pounds to charity.

Meanwhile, South of the river, in Dun Laoire, **Southside 95**, despite only a week old, strides ahead with enormous leaps. Latest recruit to join is the well known voice of David Baker, ex **KLAS, Caroline, Heartbeat** and more. He is reported to have started this weekend. Also on air is Tony King with his sports programme. Tony, of course, was very popular at **Sunshine 101** for a long period. New jingles have been noted, along with a news service. These have been heard by ourselves, here in Blackpool, as the signal on 94.9MHz. seems quite strong and occupies an unusually



clear channel on this side. Further listening is called for, as at this rate, the station seems destined for the top 5 in the city, if not higher.

It has been reported that **KLAS 98.5** has now shed all its presenters and is going fully automated, as of yesterday. Station owner, Hugh Hardy, is understood to have purchased a machine which will enable the station to run with as little attention as possible. How this will affect his popular 'Country Call' programme, which was based at the KLAS studios (then relayed through the Carousel network), remains to be seen.

Several keen Dublin dx - ers have sent in FM bandscans for the city, for which we thanks them. One mentions a **Radio Seagull** on 98MHz., at weekends. We do appreciate these, as, despite good FM equipment, we are unable to receive the smaller stations, except during the very best reception conditions.

\*\*\*\*\*

## LIBERTY 104FM

**Liberty 104:** Owner, Sammy Prendergast and General Manager, Therese Fagan are delighted with the overall response to **Liberty 104**, so far. The station is currently rated No. 4 in the city, and with the introduction of several personnel of some standing, are looking to better that even further. The station broadcasts on 104Mhz.FM in stereo and on 1035kHz.AM (the latter audible in the West of Britain) from completely re - vamped studios in Weaver Square. Since its inception, the station has been extremely reliable, with very few breaks in transmission. News is featured on the hour, with special emphasis on local events and happenings. Programmes at the weekends differ from weekday ones, to suit people's more relaxed tastes. Station address is.... **Liberty 104**, 16 Weaver Square, Dublin 2.... Tel: (01) 538870/526347.

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**Co. DONEGAL.** Information received from **Glencoe Radio** confirms that the station is using the ex Melvyn Community Radio rig on 1125kHz. The station changed name from Westside Radio, due to a station of the same name in Sligo. The name Glencoe is used as the transmitter is situated in an area of that name near Mountcharles. The current station address is Glencoe Radio, Main Street, Donegal... Tel: (073) 21738.

As reported in previous editions, **WABC - 'The Hot 107'** has activated an AM rig on 1242kHz. It is a 500 watt unit, but apparently, the aerial is inefficient. The main 107 transmitter is running, at present, around 350 watts ERP, aimed at Ballymoney, from a site 4 miles East of Moville. A new channel of 98MHz. is also in use, with just 50 watts omni - directional, which hopefully will increase to 1 kw very soon. Station owner is Paul Bentley from England, who has been involved with the land - based scene in the South East of the U.K. He went to live in Coleraine with his Irish born wife, and set up WABC. Paul says that selling advertising in the area is not easy, as competition is fierce, but after only a couple of months on air, a sizeable audience has been built up. The station operates from 07:00 to 01:00 daily, with a policy of 'all hits - no country', aimed at the 15 - 35 age group. The station address is WABC, P.O. Box 1242, Coleraine, Co. Derry, Northern Ireland... Tel: (0256) 55336 (advertising) (0860) 534438 (studio - requests etc.). It must be pointed out that these are both U.K. telephone numbers. In Donegal town, **KTOK** continue on 1566kHz., 95.7, 96.0 and 103.7MHz.FM. Very cheap adverts are understood to be on offer, which seems to have upset other operators in the area.

**Co. MONAGHAN.** The two 'border blasters' both continue to test, with **KISS FM** on 103.7MHz., from a massive array of aerials on the Brougher mountain site close to the border. Plans to introduce AM are understood to be in hand and the frequency of 1008kHz. has been mentioned. The other operation, run by a Frank McCarthey, can be heard here on 100.9MHz., with just non stop music as yet. It has been confirmed that the station will ID as 'Hot Hits KITS' and Pams Jingles have been produced. The station theme is 'The Big Sound for the Small Pound'. **Big 'M'** are still on the move with their FM and latest reports tell us that they have once again returned to 104.8MHz. This is in addition to 95.9MHz., which is a bit crammed in with **Radio Rainbow** on 96.1 and Carrickmacross - based **Music Power** on 96.2MHz.

**Co. CAVAN.** **Breffni Regional Radio** are reported to have a very good signal on their FM frequency of 95.6MHz., with parts of Galway being reached from their Arkhill mountain site. Apparently, the audio is short of some processing, according to reports on **Radio West's** free radio show this morning. We have given some listening time to **Erneside Radio** this week, on 1251kHz., and after hearing reports of rather long adverts on other stations, wonder how this station finds time to play any music. The ad. breaks really are excessive in this final run up to Christmas. The voice of Don Allen, as well as hosting the Breakfast Show, can be heard on many adverts and promos. Station address was given out as Erneside House, Belturbet, Co. Cavan.

**Co. LOUTH.** **Radio Carousel** are still reported to be off 1260kHz. and 99.3MHz., since 11th December. 1125kHz. continues as normal, however. **Boyneside Radio** are about to introduce a second FM channel, on either 100.1 or 100.9MHz.

**Co. KILKENNY.** The new Kilkenny operation, **AMS** tell us that programming on 98.6MHz. is running smoothly, with daytime programmes being produced with the housewife in mind. In the evenings, more specialist music is featured, like jazz, classical, rock, country and western, traditional, etc. Weekends consist of chart and pop music. with a very successful sports programme every Saturday afternoon. Night - time consists of MOR music, slowing things down at about 23:00, until close at 01:00 or 02:00 at weekends. It would seem that an AM transmitter is planned and QSL cards will be issued when it is operational. Also in this city, good signals are received during daylight hours, from **Kilkenny Community Radio** on 1395kHz. However, at around 15:00 at the moment, Radio Tirana swamps all this.

**Co. CORK.** From Cork City, **Radio ERI** continues on the off channel frequency of around 1303.5kHz., with a dreadful whistle all over the British Isles and possibly much further afield. Contact has been made with a member of ERI's engineering staff who says that the reason the transmitter is not on channel is because apparently the Telecom exchange is about 1/2 mile away from the site and when it is on 1305kHz., it interferes with some gadget or other in the exchange. A change of channel has been discussed, but the next channel, 1296kHz., causes the same problem. They are, however, aware of the problem and intend to try and sort it out. Owen Barry is currently heard on the daily 'drive' shift, sitting in for Pam Wilson, who is suffering from a broken leg, following an accident. A recent full colour promo appeared in 'Sunday World' inviting listeners to 'Fly ERI to the Big Apple, New York'. This is in fact the main prize for a current competition. The other main station in the city, **WBEN**, has changed its name to **South Coast Radio**. The reason for this is that they wanted a name relevant to the area, as **WBEN** was more American, according to station owner, Romano, on his very popular phone - in show on 9th December. Romano also said that they owned the original South Coast Radio and they wanted to bring it back in order to help them to get a licence.

**Co. KERRY.** Horizon FM in Killorglin is reported to be off the air now. Former 'main man' Mike Richardson is now involved with **Twigs FM** in Galway.

**Co. LIMERICK.** **Radio Munster** can be heard on three FM frequencies.... 95.45, 102.3 and 102.9MHz., with the former being the studio link, 102.3 being on a hill about 5 miles from Limerick City and 102.9 being in Offaly or Tipperary.. The latter two are travelling far and wide, we understand. **The Sound Channel** can be heard on 98.7MHz. and **Hits 954** on 97.6MHz. and 954kHz. from their new studios at 5 Cecil Street, Limerick. Despite having had no telephone for some days, it now appears that the service has been restored, no doubt using the same number (061) 42699. It is said that the latter station is miles ahead of the competition as regards signal and programming. **Radio Luimni** completes the picture in this city, and they can be heard on 1125kHz.AM and also on FM.

**Co. CLARE.** **West Coast Radio (WCR)** has returned on 104.1MHz., with a transmitter covering the same area as before. This is in mono with a stereo light, no doubt a 19khz. pilot tone. However, the studio transmitter on 98.0MHz. is in stereo. Equipment includes Technics turntables, Alice mixer and a CD player. They have moved premises to... 13 Parnell Street, Ennis, where they occupy two top floors. Advertising seems to be going well, with quite a good amount noted. The studio transmitter is an ABC (Waterford) produced 100 watt rig, fed into a folded dipole directed Northwards.



Co. GALWAY. The new station from Loughrea has still to emerge on 1404kHz., although we regularly check the channel. Rumoured to be called Galway District Radio (GDR), they bought the rig off **Kandy Radio**, who operate on FM only now, albeit with some problems on 103.5MHz.

#### LAND - BASED STATIONS.

LONDON. Due to Sid's letter being delayed in the post last week, we have a bumper double edition of the 'London Report' this week.

London Weekend Survey...4th - 7th December.

This weekend, touched down on 28 stations, 12 in stereo.

New this week is a Southall Asian station on 90.55MHz.

Missing / not heard :- Soul FM, Playback, Starpoint /KJazz, Chicago '87, R - FM (Sunday), Hits FM, Clockwork Radio, Trax FM.

Returned :- Touch FM (96.2) and City Radio (94.4).

The nightly frosts are making it cold enough to freeze the wire cutters off the DoTI person's wrist. It also keeps them (as well as LWR jocks) off other people's roofs. So there has been the minimum of activity this week, after last week's major actions.

Despite the speedy arrival of the DoTI people to remove the transmitter of South London 'Golden Groovers' **News Music Radio**, founder and guiding light Roger Ross has expressed quiet satisfaction at the initial response to their tests, and first official broadcasts on 28th / 30th November. Disappointment and surprise was expressed at the speed of the DoTI response, but they do tend to be fairly active at this time of year. Although - back up transmitters are available, time is being taken to assess the initial impact and to frame future plans. They expect to be back, bigger and better, in the first few weeks of the new year, when a lower level of DoTI activity is anticipated.

Meanwhile, fellow 'Golden Groovers' **Hits FM** (105.6) despite not being heard this weekend, have already decided to expand to at least a full weekend's programming. They may find lengthy transmissions on 105.6MHz. costly in terms of transmitters, as did B.G.C.R. when they were around this slot.

**Radio Free London** have finally made a distortion free transmission, with a good solid signal from their West London base. Sunday (6th), they settled on 92.65MHz., where **Studio 1** are normally to be heard. **Studio 1** who have been putting out an improved signal of their own this week, were not heard on either Sunday (6th) or Monday (7th).

**Solar 93** (93.05 - stereo) was prematurely reported as being busted in the last survey. In fact, a vigilant security system meant they spotted a DoTI reggaeside team before they could move in, so they pulled the plug themselves as a pre-emptive measure.

After getting up Capital Radio's nose, it now seems as though **London Greek Radio** (LGR) are getting in Capital's ear, as they change from 95.45MHz., to test briefly on 96.14MHz., until that is **Touch FM** returned on Saturday (5th) night on 96.2MHz. Carrier waves have been heard on 88.3MHz., where reports suggest they are now aiming to settle. Modesty forbids suggesting which part of Capital's anatomy this will affect. An unidentified station is also being heard intermittently on 105.5MHz., with low power. This could be a come back for **Greek Community Radio** (GCR), the Greek daytime station, who themselves used to be on 88.4MHz., but have not been heard for some time.

London Weekend Television carried a lengthy report on Harlesden's **Time Radio** (103.7 - stereo), which alleged that funding had been coming out of the back door of Brent Council, under which area they come. This accounts for the luxury (by privateer standards) equipment, and the approach to programming. It is believed that the story will not stop, as the police are believed to be 'conducting investigations', and prosecutions of a criminal nature are thought to be inevitable.

On Friday (4th), with Phase 1 and Soul FM still off - air, and before Fashion Radio had come back, a close listen to that part of the band established what had been long suspected, that there were two Indian language stations broadcasting out of Southall. One believed to be **SINA Radio Int.** is on 90.55MHz., in stereo. The other, so far un-named, is on 90.95MHz. Both are now totally masked from most of London, by the return on Sunday (6th) of **Phase 1** (90.95), and the coming on stream on Saturday of **Fashion Radio** (90.6).

Whilst **LWR** (92.15 - stereo) continue on low power,

with a standby transmitter, the big stereo sound from London this week is **TKO** (102.4MHz - stereo) who have now gone digital, and are featuring CD's extensively. They have also introduced a new set of jingles for the Christmas period, which adds a seasonal touch to their output.

The final countdown to Christmas starts here, as we plunge off into the growing hordes of Christmas shoppers, in search of friendly council who will be willing to finance a new privateer station. News on this and much more in the next thrilling installment."

London Weekend Survey...11th - 15th December.

This weekend, locked in on 28 stations, 14 in stereo.

Missing / not heard :- Clockwork Radio, Soul FM, Playback, Chicago '87, Starpoint / K-Jazz.

Returned :- London Rock, City Radio.

Busted :- Fashion, Phase 1.

Busted and back :- LWR, L.G.R. and G.C.R.L.

Last week, gremlins got at the fingers, and transposed the names and numbers of the two Southall Indian stations. **SINA Radio Int.**, are of course still on 90.95MHz. The newer station, it is now reported, is known as **Hangra**, and is on 90.55MHz. Not only fingers were affected, but the gremlins got at the ears as well, **Fashion Radio**, is in fact **Passion Radio** (90.6MHz.).

Move and countermove are besetting the intricate world of the 'Golden Groovers'. It is understood that approaches have been made to **Hits FM** (105.6MHz.), and **News Music Radio** (NMR), by a genuine veteran 'Golden Groover' with a view to partial co-operation or merging of interests. This would take the form of (the offer was the same to both stations) one of the on-air stations expanding to full 7 day / 24 hour operation, and running tapes of his old station through the night. Alternatively, a full blown merger was offered, where Hits or NMR would take on the mantle of the old station, and trade on the old name. It is understood, that as both stations have comprehensive plans of expansion already in the pipeline, that the offer has been refused. Meanwhile, **Hits FM** were in test mode this weekend, with not much more than continuous music emanating from their South West London studios, after last week's troubles. **NMR** still hope to be back in the new year.

A welcome return to metal bashers **London Rock** (89.65MHz.), who have finally returned to resume their Saturday, 5pm to midnight selection, after many promises, on a new frequency, from their North East London base.

**Radio Free London** (92.65MHz. - Sunday) came on exactly over the top of **Studio 1**. Which station was receivable depended on the part of London you happened to be in. **RFL** are continuing to put out a good, strong signal, as are **Studio 1**.

**Starpoint** (94.3MHz.) have still not returned, but that enabled **Rock FM** (94.25MHz. - stereo) to have an interference free Sunday. How long this spot will remain clear, is now open to conjecture, with a planned BBC relay opening at High Wycombe on the same slot, by the end of January. Their East London location, may mean that they will get the same kind of economic attrition being waged against them, as has recently been happening to **LWR**.

And, at **LWR**, it was thought at one point they had finally run out of standby transmitters, when they failed to make an appearance for three days. **LWR** have been subject to an incredible run when at least ten transmitters, and a studio have been lifted by the DoTI 'Reggaecide Squads'. **LWR** must have finally got the point when they read the BBC Engineering teletext pages, and realised it looked as though a special effort was being made to keep that slot free, as a new **Radio 3** relay is due on the air in High Wycombe shortly. The signal propagated by **LWR** is quite strong, and could cause problems to the good burghers of High Wycombe. Interference to **LWR** is actually expected to be minimal, as the relay will be relatively low powered. **LWR** have moved up slightly from 92.05 to 92.35MHz., and at the moment are still in low powered stereo.

**London Greek Radio** (96.15MHz.) have not disappeared down to 88.3 as forecast, but were hit by the DoTI people instead. They returned on Sunday, in Capital's ear, but because of the proximity of South West London's **Touch FM** (96.25MHz.), were inaudible over much of town. That should at least please Capital. Also on the Greek front, since their return on a 7 day / 24 hour basis, **G.C.R.L.** (104.2) are now including regular English ID's.

The mystery carrier wave has again been picked up on 88.3MHz., and initially thought to be yet another radio



Two relay. It is only being picked up late at night in the centre of town. By the time the next survey reaches your breakfast table, there might be an answer. In the meantime, from the depths of the deepest South, let me take this opportunity of wishing you Love, Peace and Happiness for Christmas and the New Year."

Now onto a few news snippets and loggings for this weekend, courtesy of Alan in Essex, and Mark in Oxford. Firstly, **Raiders FM** (105.2MHz.) suffered its first setback at the hands of the authorities on Friday night, when the station was raided at 22:15. Around ten DTI and Police officials were present, and the transmitter, along with tape recorder and cassettes were taken. It was interesting to note that a receipt was not given for the items, and that also, whilst the authorities were let in without any hassle, one of them did sport a sledgehammer! Did their move to 105.2MHz. cause this raid?

Stations heard this weekend were ... 88.3MHz. (Greeks-L.G.R.?)... **Community Development Radio** (88.7MHz.), **RJR** (90.0MHz.), **Rock to Rock** (90.0MHz.), **Sina Radio** (90.9MHz.), **Sky FM** (91.7MHz.), **LWR** (92.3MHz.), **Studio FM** (92.6MHz.), **Solar FM** (93.0MHz.), **KISS FM** (93.95MHz.), **L.G.R.** (96.2MHz.), **Girls FM** (97.0MHz.), **Traffic Jam** (97.8MHz.), **CD 10/24** (102.4 - Saturday), **TKO** (102.4MHz.), **Melody FM** (102.8MHz.), **Fresh FM** (103.3MHz.), **Time FM** (103.7MHz.), **JBC** (104.4MHz.), and **Hits FM** (105.5 Saturday). Another Greek station was also heard on 104.1MHz. Although LWR were heard today, they have been off the air again for part of the week, suggesting yet another onslaught by the authorities. Also absent today was TKO, who were relaying the new station CD 10/24 between 04:00 and 17:00 on Saturday. R - FM had also not been positively heard at the time of printing. Also not on the air today, but on yesterday, were the two Greek stations on 96.2 and 104.1MHz. City radio, Chicago '87 and Starpoint have all been missing for some time now. Will they return?

Just North of London **Radio Neptune** made one of its rare broadcasts this morning on 1566kHz.

**RENFREWSHIRE.** Only **Radio Mercury** (96.1MHz.) have been on the air this week, each evening from Wednesday to Saturday from 19:00 - 21:15. A female with an American accent has been heard hosting programmes. Neon Radio has now closed for good, due to all the problems caused two weeks ago.

**YORKSHIRE, HUMBERSIDE and DERBYSHIRE.** Interesting things were happening over at **ABC FM** (105.1MHz.) in the early part of last week. As we mentioned a couple of issues ago, an ABC 1st Anniversary Party was to be held at the 'Warehouse' in the city on 14th December. This indeed did happen last Monday evening between 21:00 and 02:00, and presumably they had such a 'happy' time that this is why the station was late on the air the following morning (Tuesday). Announcements were heard during the evening that C.J. Carlos of London's **Time Radio**, would be guesting on the station later on. A taped show from him was then heard, with greetings being sent to all at ABC in Leeds. Then the programme was interrupted, and went live, with C.J. himself having just arrived at the station, continuing with the show. He was described by local listeners as being very professional, and his show was well worth listening to. **Music City Radio** (90.3MHz.) seem to have extended their hours slightly, and are now broadcasting on Friday nights, in addition to Saturday and Sunday afternoons and evenings.

In Bradford, **Radio Veronica** (105.5MHz.) made their regular Sunday evening broadcast on 13th December, with an excellent signal. However at around 21:15, the signal suddenly dropped in strength, and then disappeared altogether. The station made it back to the air on Wednesday night for their regular mid - week broadcast, and commented that their disappearance from the air was due to a few technical problems. It was announced that the station would make a special all day broadcast on Sunday, 27th December.

**Radio Takoradi** in Hull, were back to a full schedule last weekend. This consisted of transmissions on Friday 18:00 - 19:00, and Saturday 17:30 - 20:00, on 104.8MHz. Presenters Jack Master Lee, T - Slam and 'The Boys' all still announced 105.0MHz. however. The Friday broadcast was on low power, but this might have had something to do with moving studios, which was the reason for their absence last week. A hum was noted on the audio on Friday, but this had gone by Saturday night. 'The Boys' are the new recruits, and are currently getting used to the studio, with the subsequent mistakes. The station is now announced

as 'The All New Takoradi'. Although not heard this week, W.L.N.G. are currently offering a 'community radio report' covering plans for a station in their area (Scunthorpe). It is 50p from Media Promotions, P.O. Box 32, Scunthorpe.

In South Yorkshire, two stations continue to be active each week. These are **Rebel Radio** (each Friday evening on 105.3MHz.) and **Solid Soul Radio** (106MHz.). Test transmissions from **Monica Sound** (104.8) were broadcast on 29th November and 6th December, and these were in preparation for Christmas Day broadcasts.

Derbyshire saw **Radio Freedom** on the air again today. This is now several times they have appeared over the past few months, so perhaps this a taste of things to come. As usual, they were operating on both medium wave (1242kHz.) and FM (105.05MHz.).

**MERSEYSIDE.** Due to the poor medium wave conditions during the past few weeks, we have not been able to receive **Liverpool Pirate Radio** here in Blackpool. However we understand that Phil Davies has indeed been on the air each Sunday with his 'Golden Oldies'. The frequency varies between 1386 and 1404kHz., and only low power is presently in use. Phil certainly puts in a long weekend as far as programmes on 'alternative radio' go. He normally does throughout the night on **Radio Merseywaves**, and shortly after he finishes on that station, opens up his own for several hours. Talking about people who put in long hours, RMW owner, Burt Williams falls into this category, as he has spent several nights recently, working non - stop to ensure that the station is on the air for the holiday period. As a result, he was not in good form on today's show, and promised (threatened?) changes to come. Thursday night saw both RMW and **North Coast Radio** on air (1242 and 1350kHz. resp.). Friday, and just the two were heard again, but on Saturday, they were joined by **Radio Atlantis** on 1197kHz. and on Sunday, both **Veronica 104**, on 104.75MHz. and **Concept Radio** on 104.3MHz. were active, although the latter was not received here.

**MIDLANDS.** Coming up to Christmas, many stations have informed us about their plans for the festive season, one of these being **WR 'The Hot FM'**, located in Shropshire. This station normally operates on the last Sunday in the month, and will be on air from 11:45 onwards on Sunday 27th December, around 105MHz. They will have a programme called 'Radiotheque' at 12:00, which will look back at some of the records of 1987, and all will be played from compact disc for the first time. Other features for this broadcast will be an 'under fives storytime' and 'revolting record spot'. Transmissions will close at 15:10, so good luck to all at the station for this broadcast.

Just three stations have been on the air in this area. **Radio P.C.R.L.** (103.6MHz.) and **Enterprise FM** (90.9 stereo) have both been on air all week, with no problems as far as we can gather. In addition, today saw **Soul City Radio** (103.75MHz.) with their regular appearance. They did however carry on past their normal 13:00 closedown time, and were still heard at 14:00. Perhaps this is part of extended hours over Christmas.

**OFFSHORE STATIONS...RADIO CAROLINE.** Not a lot happening on the ship at the moment, with still only Chris Kennedy and Steve Conway sharing the on - air duties between them. We left them last Sunday, off the air, and in fact they did not return until Monday morning (14th December) at 09:00. Chris Kennedy took on the first shift, and programmed through until 13:00, when Steve Conway took over. Chris then did another another hour between 17:00 and 18:00, when he signed the station off for the day. Tuesday to Friday, saw a steady schedule of 12 hours per day, with an 06:00 start and 18:00 closedown. The line - up was 06:00 Chris Kennedy... 10:00 Steve Conway... 16:00 Chris Kennedy... 18:00 Sign Off. Saturday and Sunday saw Chris given a break from breakfast, and Steve hosted from sign - on at 06:00. The rest of the day was 10:00 Chris Kennedy... 14:00 Steve Conway... 16:00 Chris Kennedy... 18:00 Closedown. On Saturday morning, Steve Conway mentioned that Mike Watts had been in the news studio all night, carrying out some repairs. Chris hoped that the news service and weather service would begin again on Monday, however this all depends if any more staff arrive before then. Commercials have however continued to be played, including one of the more recent ones advertising a book.

Replacement staff are hoped to be able to reach the ship before Christmas, in order to give a reasonable schedule over the holiday period. However, this of course all depends on the weather conditions in that part of the North Sea, which can be very in-hospitable at this time of year.



**THE OFFSHORE STATIONS.** Stuart in Staffs. reminds us that it was three years ago last Wednesday, 16th December, since Radio Monique commenced broadcasts from the Ross Revenge. Of course, the station is currently off air due to the loss of the mast on board. The station will be back just as soon as facilities permit.

**THE VOICE OF PEACE.** Two reports this week, from our regular reporters, Vered and Gali, and from Ian Hudson, currently on shore leave. On Tuesday (8th), the station switched off sometime before dawn and was missing until about noon, possibly for essential maintenance. On the same day, to mark the 7th anniversary of John Lennon's death, station owner, Abie Nathan, went live at 17:00 and made a short speech about the legendary man. This was followed by John Lennon songs until 18:00. On Thursday (10th), a new D.J. was heard from midnight until 03:00. His name was Stuart Crombie and he has formerly done hospital radio work for Radio Barnet in Hertfordshire. Apparently the line - up has changed almost daily up to this point, and now reads.... 00:00 Steve Crombie, 03:00 John McDonald, 06:00 Neil Armstrong, 09:00 Steve Richards, 13:00 Kenny Page, 16:00 John McDonald, 18:00 Steve Richards, 19:30 John McDonald, 22:00 Neil Armstrong. Tim Shepherd is now back in the U.K. and he will be followed by Neil Armstrong on 20th December. The station at the moment sounds really strong, mainly due to the influence of Kenny Page, who was last on the VOP in 1979 and has latterly been presenting 'Drive - Time' for Radio Tay in Dundee. Advertising has understandably dropped off since the return of Kol Israel and news in Hebrew, on the hour, has returned. Ads. still, however, remain at a healthy level, although talk of purchasing a new ship is being a bit optimistic! However, some new equipment is lined up, including a 25kw FM transmitter and Optimod system.

#### **SHORTWAVE STATIONS.**

Steve Most, of Radio Pamela, has now received two summonses to appear before Medway Magistrates Court in Chatham, at 14:30 on 6th January 1988. Steve is being accused of both 'installing transmission equipment' and of 'transmitting', both without a licence, which is of course impossible to get even if it is applied for. We hope anyone in the Chatham area will go along and support Steve on the above date.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **Log for Sunday 20th December 1987.**

6204kHz...RADIO PAMELA INT., at 10:15gmt.  
6206kHz...SUN RADIO (via DIGITAL), at 11:48gmt.  
6206kHz...RADIO DIGITAL, at 12:03gmt.  
6216kHz...UNID., at 10:20gmt.  
6218kHz...UNID., at 11:51gmt.  
6230kHz...RADIO ATLANTIS, at 11:03gmt.  
6240kHz...RADIO RAINBOW INT. at 11:00gmt.  
6240kHz...RON SMITH'S 'MESSAGE FROM GOD', at 11:01gmt.  
6265kHz...S.B.C.(?), at 10:50gmt.  
6266kHz...UNID., at 11:07gmt.  
6266kHz...RADIO ELECTRA, at 11:17gmt.  
6268kHz...RADIO TUTENCHAMEN, at 09:57gmt.  
6268kHz...RADIO JOYSTICK (via TUT), at 10:08gmt.  
6271kHz...RADIO WAVES INT., at 12:17gmt.  
6280kHz...WESTSIDE RADIO INT., at 09:00gmt.  
6280kHz...SATELLITE BROADCASTING CO., at 10:05gmt.  
6280kHz...MAPLE LEAF RADIO, at 10:10gmt.  
6290kHz...RADIO ORION, at 10:58gmt.  
6299kHz...SPECTRUM LEISURE COMM., at 09:03gmt.  
6299kHz...BORDER RADIO, at 10:03gmt.  
6305kHz...KLA RADIO, at 11:29gmt.  
6318kHz...W.L.R., at 09:30gmt.  
6450kHz...UNID., at 11:30gmt.  
6525kHz...KLA RADIO, at 11:36gmt.  
6600kHz...UNID. (Dutch), at 11:41gmt.  
6725kHz...E.M.R., at 09:58gmt.  
7315kHz...F.R.S. HOLLAND, at 10:06gmt.  
7361kHz...RADIO 101, at 08:55gmt.  
7361kHz...E.M.R. (?), at 10:40gmt.  
7367kHz...COUNTDOWN RADIO, at 09:50gmt.  
7367kHz...RADIO CALDONIA, at 10:01gmt.  
7370kHz...UNID., at 11:50gmt.  
7400kHz...UNID., at 10:05gmt.  
7409kHz...UNID., at 12:55gmt.  
7423kHz...RADIO SCORPIO, at 09:51gmt.  
7423kHz...RADIO STELLA INT., at 13:01gmt.  
7430kHz...RADIO STELLA INT., at 11:38gmt.  
7433kHz...UNID., at 11:00gmt.

\*\*\*\*\*

Once again conditions on the shortwaves were very good, with very few fades, although there were a lot of mysteries in the form of unidentified signals. The stations listed in bold were heard here in Blackpool. Others were kindly telephoned in by listeners in Yorkshire, Cheshire, Lincolnshire, Devon, the Midlands, Hampshire and Bremen in West Germany (Radiotelex).... on (0253) 882017.

The address given out by Radio Pamela was 10 Bromyard Crescent, Paulsgrove, Portsmouth, Hants. It was announced early on, that last week, the modulator section had blown up, so the station was trying a new one out this week. They hope to be on the air for several broadcasts over the Christmas period. A BBC transmission (spurious?) on the same frequency blocked out Pamela's signal for part of the morning.

The unidentified station on 6216kHz. was heard playing adverts for Waterford, and so could possibly have been Riverside Radio doing a relay of a local Irish station.

The unidentified station on 6218kHz. was playing extracts from a Radio Caroline Story. The signal was quite good, but the audio was very low, and no identification or address was noted.

Radio Atlantis made their first shortwave broadcast for a long time this morning, and were also announcing 1611kHz. medium wave, and 105.3MHz. FM locally to the Kent and Sussex areas. The medium wave was received as far away as Reading, although no reports of the FM being logged have been received. Their address is 128 Kingfisher Drive, Eastbourne, East Sussex.

Radio Rainbow has currently no programming of its own, due to the departure of Kieren Murray, and plays continuous music up until 11:00, when Heady Eddie simply announces the station as the Radio Rainbow International Relay Service.

Spectrum Leisure Communications announced that they would be on the air over Christmas on 12114kHz., but in narrow band FM. 24 hour operation was said to be a possibility.

European Music Radio were buried under severe noise on 6725kHz. It is not known, whether the noise was a faulty transmitter or not, as this frequency has been quite clear of any interference (at least here in Blackpool) previously.

What was thought to be E.M.R. was heard on 7360kHz., following the closure of Radio 101 programming. Reception was very weak however.

Two stations were heard in a relatively short period on 7367kHz. Firstly was CD (Countdown) Radio, at 09:50, who were announcing an address of P.O. Box 6679, Rotterdam, The Netherlands. Secondly, Radio Caldonia was heard at 10:01gmt. Possibly this was Caldonia's transmitter, relaying the previous station. Radio Caldonia announced that they would be on the air on Christmas Day between 09:00 and 16:00, on this frequency.

The final mystery this week is 7400kHz., which was heard at 10:05gmt, playing a continuous drum machine, and clapping. The same beat was heard all the time.

WMR tell us that they hope to be on the air on 25th, 26th and 27th December on 6235, 7455/60, 6295+/-, and possibly 15045, 9065 or 26100kHz. DX - ers are urged to check all the above frequencies. Live telephone calls will be taken on air to anyone who knows the number.

#### **Log for Saturday 19th December 1987.**

6204kHz...RADIO PAMELA INT., at 11:08gmt.  
6237kHz...DELTA RADIO, at 11:30gmt.  
6290kHz...RADIO ORION, at 10:19gmt.

\*\*\*\*\*

Delta Radio is a new station which is to operate each Saturday morning from now on. This Saturday's programming was presented by Pete Edwards, and an address of P.O. Box 5, Hunstanton, Norfolk PE36 5AU was given out.

\*\*\*\*\*

Just one amendment to last week's log, Star International was logged on 7489kHz., at 10:06gmt.

That's all for this year, see you all in '88.

\*\*\*\*\*



**STAR**  
INTERNATIONAL  
49 METREBAND  
SHORTWAVE  
Live Long And Prosper

**RADIOTELEX**  
bi-weekly Free Radio Newsheet  
c/o P.O. Box 10 37 71  
2800 Bremen 1  
West-Germany  
Sample copy for DM 1.20 / 1 IRC

CAROLINE RADIO CLUB  
'OFFSHORE' MAGAZINE  
POSTBUS 3-1 9  
2630 AH 's GRAVENZANDE (NEDERLAND)  
(stuur voor info antwoordregel en  
voor proefnummer 4 IRC's + eigen  
naam en adres)



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# **The WEEKLY**

# **REPORT**

# **ANORAKS**

**The First with the News in Print**

No. 191/192.....27th December '87/3rd January '88.....P.O. Box 539, BLACKPOOL FY1 4RE, England.

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Welcome to our first 'WR' for 1988, which is a bumper double issue to cover the happenings in the radio scene over the past two weeks. We hope that everyone had a good time over the Festive Season, and as well as eating plenty of turkey, heard plenty of radio too.

Apologies must be given to some contributors who supplied us with information up to Christmas, as we found at the last minute, we had too much to include. As a result, some of the items had to be left over, but are included in this issue. Nothing really startling has occurred over the past two weeks to give us an introductory paragraph, however there was an interesting item on the television, during a programme called 'No Limits'. This programme features a different area of the country during each show, and last week, the Shetland Islands were spotlighted. A short section was devoted to the Shetland Islands Broadcasting Service (S.I.B.C.), who, despite not having a 'transmitting licence' as such, (we are told), are broadcasting on 96.3MHz. to the islands' inhabitants, although the programme stated that it was a cable operation. Shots were shown of the studios, which were very impressive, as well as showing the record library, which was substantial for a new station. Ian Anderson, the man behind the venture, was given a few words on the air whilst sat in the studio complex. It will be interesting to see how the station will fare, as whilst some sections of the Government are sympathetic to Ian's cause, and would prefer that the station's 'illegality' were ignored, others are adamantly against such a station, which may become a precedent for other prospective operators. We wish the station the best of luck for 1988, and hope that others will be able to follow in its footsteps, perhaps before not too long, and speaking about that, the article below. taken from the Daily Telegraph may just herald such a move, or will it?.....

## **Hurd gives go-ahead to local radio shake-up**

by Jamie Dettmer Political Correspondent and David Wastell

PLANS to set up 300 community radio stations and two national commercial stations to compete with the BBC will be announced by Mr Hurd, Home Secretary, within days of Parliament reassembling from the Christmas break.

In the biggest radio shake-up since the introduction of independent local stations in the early 1970s, Mr Hurd is also expected to announce a new Radio Authority to oversee commercial broadcasting.

One of its first tasks will be to decide how to allocate the 300 community radio licences.

To accommodate the two national commercial stations the BBC will have to surrender the medium wave frequencies now used by Radio One and Radio Three, which will be confined to VHF.

Mr Hurd will tell MPs in the second week of January that he is determined to press on

quickly with the shake-up which has been anticipated for the past three years.

A broadcasting Bill dealing mainly with radio is planned for the next session, allowing the changes to go ahead in late 1989.

The Bill will include a radical move to free the existing 50 local commercial stations from their public service obligations. This will allow them to compete on equal terms with the new community stations.

At present they are obliged by law to provide a wide mix of programmes, including a fixed percentage of news and current affairs.

But the Government will not privatise BBC's pop station, Radio One, or the light music station Radio Two, as recommended by Peacock Committee.

By the end of next decade a typical county could have, in addition to its present local BBC and independent stations, two new county-wide VHF

"community" stations, four or five stations confined to each of the main towns, and a handful of part-time stations operated by enthusiasts.

In major cities the Government hopes specialist stations will spring up catering for anything from jazz to Urdu.

Ministers have long debated what authority should oversee Britain's future radio system. They are unhappy with the original suggestion that the Independent Broadcasting Authority, which supervises the 50 existing commercial stations, should have control.

It now seems almost certain that they have also ruled out the Cable Authority, and decided on the completely new Radio Authority.

News that the go-ahead for community radio is finally to be given was greeted with "absolute delight" by Mr Paul Boon, chairman of the Association for Broadcasting Development.

**WEEKLY REPORT and CUTTINGS**

is produced, printed and posted out on Sundays, from Blackpool. Weekly subscription rates are thus.... First Class (U.K.), plus EEC countries (inc. Eire), 35p..... Second Class (U.K. only), 30p..... EEC countries (Finland, Sweden, Switzerland, etc.), 40p..... Elsewhere (via Air Mail), 50p. You may subscribe for as many weeks as you wish and now might just be the time to do that, as subscription rates will be increasing shortly. The rise will be 5p per week all round, this of course, will take into account increased printing charges we are being confronted with, along with an increase in postal rates, expected sometime in the next three or four months. Existing subscriptions will stand and paid up subscribers will not be asked to pay the increase, so feel free to 'invest' if you end up with some spare money after the holiday. Do it now and save!

**The ANORAKS U.K. INFO - LINE.**

is available on (0795) 511118, 24 hours per day, seven days per week. Ring it now for a three minute message up - dating you with the latest happenings. If you have some news, then ring (0795) 511119 and leave your message after the whistle tone. Enquiries about subscriptions or merchandise must be directed to our address in Blackpool and not left as messages on the info -line.

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**The Data Protection Act of 1984** states that we must inform all subscribers that names and addresses are stored on a computer in order to ease the workload when addressing envelopes each week. Everyone has the right to request us to remove such information, and we must oblige, but it must be pointed out that subscribers not on the computer may well experience some delay in replies from our organisation.

**NEW MERCHANDISE.** Unfortunately arriving one day too late for our last issue was **Wavelength No. 19**, for December 1987 / January 1988. In this issue they have the regular m.v. Ross Revenge and Communicator sections, covering the happenings on the two vessels during November. The land - based section includes several pages of shortwave, as well as London and Merseyside reports. The interview featured in this issue is from Charlie Wolf, along with 'Confessions of an Anorak' from Mike



Ross and a description of the operation at Sunshine 101 in Dublin by Bob Powell (who of course, now works for RTE). Wavelength No. 19 costs just 75p..... Just a reminder also, that **Offshore Echo's Magazine No. 69** (reviewed in the last Weekly Report) also arrived just before Christmas, and can be obtained for £1.90 from our usual address..... Following the collapse of the Radio Caroline mast in November, demand for our medium wave loop / frame antennae has been quite astonishing, so much so, that some delays have occurred. We are once again on course, so to speak, and delivery can be guaranteed, within a few days of receipt of order. We have just had to order some further parts, following the extra demand, and are told that a price increase can be expected here. This may mean we have to slightly increase the charge per loop, so, again, now may be the time to take the plunge and invest in one of these amazing devices. You will not regret such a move, believe us. Current price is £28.00..... In the last issue, we priced incorrectly the single record, 'Man of Action' by Les Reed. It should have read £5.00 for the brand new, original version in picture bag..... Finally, just arriving in time for mention in this issue is **Radio Today (incorporating TX Magazine)**. This is No.16 (for November /December) and arrives at a time when we were just about giving up hope of ever seeing another issue. Still, it was worth waiting for and the two main reasons we say this are.... much improved quality, including the glossy cover and the fact that the magazine has diversified quite a bit and now covers more than just the London land - based scene, although, does lean heavily in this direction. Features in this issue include... 'Clockwork Wireless': Dave Birdman and Terry Anderson talk.... Charlie Wolf writes with his letter from America.... 'Worldwatch': Radio over the water in Ireland.... AM/FM: The complete guide to radio in London: BBC, independent and pirates. Excellent value and a good interesting read at £1.50 including postage and packing.

**NEW ARRIVALS.** Christmas was a little light on the reading matter, with just two publications arriving here. **Radiotelex Issue 114** was printed one week early, due to the obvious postal problems over the festive season. As a result only a single week's logs were carried, with in addition, a selection of news items on shortwave free radio activity. Subscriptions to this bi-weekly publication in English, can be obtained from Radiotelex, P.O. Box 10 37 71, D - 2800 Bremen 1, West Germany..... The ever regular **PLAY - DX No. 486** was the second European publication to arrive and contains 2 pages of DX logs from both medium wave and the more unusual short wave bands. International news is also featured, with QSL reports being part of it, as well as the regular Latin American section 'El Chasqui DX'. English, Italian and Spanish text. The address is Dario Monferini, v. Davanzati 8, 20158 Milano, Italy..... After Christmas however, four more magazines arrived, the first being Number 29 of **PIN MAGAZINE**. As stated in previous reviews, this publication is aimed at the European market, and the text is entirely in German. This 44 page x A5 size issue, starts off with several pages of FM news from Europe, including a special piece on Holland. Several other smaller stories are then included before the regular offshore radio section. Finally, the shortwave section which is ten pages long, includes the PIN frequency and address list for September / October, and a two page feature on Radio Titanic. Certainly a good read for those who understand German. Subscriptions cost £9.00 for 6 issues from PIN Magazine, Postfach 220342, 5600 Wuppertal 22, West Germany. This is also the address for other information on the magazine..... **Short Wave Newsletter** Issue 31 was compiled with just the use of a Vega receiver, as the editor's main receiver had passed on! Despite this, however, plenty of information was still obtained, and the latest schedules from several countries are included here, as well as scans of various bands from the weeks prior to Christmas. As this is the last issue of SWN for 1987, a section called 'Review 1987' is included, which gives a month - by - month review of the happenings related to short wave radio. The last section, as usual, is dedicated SW free radio, and this consists of a well documented piece on the stations received in the first two weeks of December. First time writers can avail themselves of a free copy of this 6 page x A4 magazine by enclosing a normal 'WR' size SAE and sending it to SWN, 3 Greenway, Harold Park, Romford, Essex RM3 0HH..... **Now Radio Reports**, Issue 007 arrived in its larger A4 format. Packed with news from all quarters of the radio world. Details from P.O. Box 45,

Kettering, Northants. NN16 0NW..... and finally (as they say) **Freewave Magazine**, Issue 155 arrived. 24 x A5 pages of well presented news and information, but all in the Dutch language. 'Hans Knot in gesprek met Charlie Wolf' (they all interviewed him at 'Driftback', didn't they?), 'Zeezenders Nu', and 'Radio & TV Logboek' are just some of the features in this issue. Details: Hans Knot, Postbus 102, 9700 AC Groningen, Holland.

**TAPE OFFER.** Once again we tune across the AM band of New York and for Tape 140 stop on two more speech stations in the city. Scanning up the dial, we reach 710kHz. and **WOR - AM**. This station was rated No. 6 in the most recent polls, and has a format of news and features. Although one of the higher powered stations, WOR is a hard catch to U.K. DX - ers, unlike some of the others. Also difficult to hear in Europe is **WLIB - AM**, on 1190kHz. This station claims to be the only all black station in the United States. This breakfast show, is again all news and features, with an obvious slant towards the black residents of New York. Tape 141 brings us nearer home and will enable the purchaser to hear **Caroline on Christmas Day**, something only Kent/Essex listeners will have been able to do with anything like reasonable reception. This recording was made in Ramsgate, and is about as near to the ship as you will get, on land, some 16 miles. The audio quality is not as good as it used to be, obviously, and a number of crackles are heard, due to the aerial arcing. However, it is as good as anyone will get and features Steve Conway on one side and Mike Watts on the other side, with lots of Christmas mentions and happenings, along with some good music. Both the above tapes are C.90's, but the third, Tape 142, is only a C.60 and features an old Caroline D.J. from the 70's, Roger Matthews, on **Sunshine Radio** from Ludlow. The recording was made on Boxing Day and again, features some good music. Stephen Tyrone can be heard on the 'B' side of this middle of the day recording, which was made locally and is as good a quality as one can get from the modest transmitter. All tapes are priced at £2.00 each.

**WANTED.** Did anyone video the film called 'Flame' shown on Channel 4 on Saturday 12th December, featuring the pop group Slade? If so, could we borrow it to view, as we understand that there were some good, albeit brief, shots of the fort - based station Radio City in it.... Contact P.O. Box 539 etc.

**WANTED.** Recordings of Radio Caroline's return transmission (Friday 4th December 1987). Please send details to : Steve Ball, 2 Badger Grove, Meir Park, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs. ST3 7RY.

**FOR SALE.** John Lewis Breakfast Show's from Caroline 558 (05:00 - 09:00). Good quality. Contact : Peter Tilt, 15b The Hemplands, Lowestoft, Suffolk RN32 1JN.

**WANTED.** Contacts from all over the U.K., except East Anglia, London and West Yorkshire, to swap tapes of I.R. and other stations.... Telephone Andy on (0480) 73149.

**GENERAL.** So what of the year past? Laser packed up and popped off yet again, at Easter, promising of course, to be back in a week or two! The ships were forced further out to sea by the new Territorial Waters Bill and the mighty mast on the Ross Revenge managed to withstand the hurricane of October in its new more exposed position. This obviously greatly weakened it and the next storm of November saw it snap off at the base and eventually fall over the side. In the Med., the Peace ship had more success and got back on AM with a new transmitter. More good luck followed as a result of a strike by the National station Kol Israel, and the station took so much advertising, even talk of a new ship was heard. They eventually decided on a new FM transmitter instead. A fourth contender anchored off Long Island, New York, but only lasted a few days, scuppered by the FCC and the Coastguard. The Nannell project in Santander remained dormant. So we enter 1988 with one on peanut power at present, one 'resting', two port bound and one happily broadcasting out of (our) earshot. In Ireland, more talk of legislation, Nova returned (for a few days) and vanished again, and 'the border blasters' continued to increase from their bases in counties Louth, Monaghan and Donegal, with ever increasing power. At home, on land, the pirates flourished as a result of some foolish Government decisions, the DTI did well too. They must have quite a collection of gear this year! Encouraging noises were heard from high up, late in the year, as regards changes in broadcasting laws and not before time too, but is it all going to simply be another farce, as were the promised 21



community radio licences of 2 years ago?.

And what can we expect for 1988? Caroline back with an aerial system and high power again?.... Quite likely, we think. Government changes in broadcasting laws?.... Possibly, but few changes, more talk and red tape. Legislation in Ireland?.... We'll believe it when it happens! Even better shortwave conditions?.... It seems very likely. What do we want?.... More choice on the radio, above all.

Finally what about Anoraks U.K? Resolutions..... To get that glossy A4 magazine out! We have sufficient content but not time..... Not to use the Post Office's Express Mail Service ever! They charge £1.50 extra for just a letter, invariably fail to deliver on time, and then don't even bother to fill in the 'received' slip at the destination end. Daylight robbery! The Irish system is much cheaper and seems to be more reliable..... To convince every medium wave radio listener that one of our loop aerials is an essential item..... Above all, to fight for free radio in '88. Above all, to give an even better service in '88.

#### RADIO STATION NEWS...IRELAND.

DUBLIN. Not really any startling news to report from the city this time around. **Sunshine 101** are now up to the big prize in their latest giveaway, with a massive £20,000 cash at stake, so make sure you always answer your telephone with the 'phrase that pays', which is "I Listen to the Red Hot Sound of Sunshine 101". You could be in for a surprise if your number is dialled, as Anne Royal was when she recently won £2,000. The Evening Press newspaper sponsored the '101 Hottest Hits of the year' which was aired for the duration of the day on New Year's Day. Despite the sponsorship, adverts for the rival Evening Herald newspaper were noted during the period.

At **Q - 102**, Mickey Joe is again having a rest following the mad rush around in the helicopter last week, visiting all the children in Hospital, along with Santa. The 'Eye in the Sky' is currently not in use, as the traffic is apparently not as busy when the school children are on holiday. We look forward to hearing the humorous links between 'copter and studio once again in 1988. Current line - up here reads... 06:00 Scott Williams, 09:00 Jason Maine, 12:00 Dave Kelly, 15:00 Gareth O'Callaghan, 19:00 Greg Gaughran, 24:00 Al Dunne. On news, Brian Jennings and Eileen Whelan can be heard in the week, with Moira O'Neill, Carol King and an occasional 'Sydney' (female) assist at the weekends. Weekend D.J.'s include Aidan Lennard, Mike Duggan, Henry Owens and Joe Harrington.

The identity crisis at **Power 103 FM** now seems to have resolved itself, with the station finally returning to **Energy Power 103 FM**. Programmes are still being aired on all three frequencies, 738kHz. medium wave, and 99.9 and 103.0MHz.FM. Again, the power on 738 is reported as quite high and reports of good reception reach us from such areas as Yorkshire. Tim Kelly has been noted currently standing in for the holidaying Cassidy Jones, each morning and Pat Courteney was heard with a rather entertaining show at New Year, featuring many of the amusing out - takes from the Pat Courteney / Bob Gallico / Lisa Moore morning programmes. Sybil Fennell is now absent on maternity leave, awaiting the happy arrival, whilst Brian McKenzie takes over in her place.

**Liberty 104**, whilst having no reports about them, continue with a more music format than previously, we are told.

**Southside 95** continue to make good ground and no doubt gain the confidence of the advertisers. In the Christmas Day Peter Madison Breakfast Show, an attempt was made to link up with colleagues on the Voice of Peace in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea, by telephone. Although we were not around to hear the programme due to it being quite early, we understand the station was unable to get through to the Israeli station.

Co. WATERFORD. **ABC Radio** made their usual link - ups on Christmas Day, ringing various people and radio stations in the U.K. We understand some 'Anorak' organisation in Blackpool was heard live, again, passing greetings to all their friends in the South East!

Co. MONAGHAN. Still plenty of action in this area, despite the holidays. John, in Dundalk, tells us that **KISS - FM** (103.7MHz.) was heard with much increased power on the evening of 23rd December, and in his area was stronger than any of the station emanating from Dublin, despite having a very directional signal towards Belfast. They are currently still putting out test transmissions consisting of an hour of music, adverts and announcements which is repeated

continuously. **KISS - FM** have a 5kW transmitter waiting to go on the air, so the strong signal John heard, could well have been this unit under test. Previously they had been operating with just 100 watts, and are currently again, into an aerial array giving a massive gain. Pre - emphasis and audio processing were also brought into use, the week before Christmas, although just only mono at present. Anoraks U.K. adverts, as well as a warm up announcement from Charlie Van Dyke have been noted on these tests. Just adjacent to **KISS**, is the other big new operation in Monaghan, '**KITS 101 FM**' (100.9MHz.). Although just playing continuous music when we were able to listen, we understand that live programmes were being broadcast for the week leading up to Christmas. These were being transmitted between 13:00 and 18:00 each afternoon. Kenny Tosh (ex - **ZEE 103**, Ardagh) was one of the presenters heard. During the last few days, extensive monitoring of this frequency has revealed that in fact, 'live test transmission' programmes have been broadcast 'country - wide' (Northern Ireland?) with Kenny Tosh and Paul Thomas. A country music programme was also noted. AM transmissions have been promised soon. A contact number has been announced, it is... (047) / (0013 from N.I.) 83596. **KITS - FM** can be heard quite often here in Blackpool, but **KISS - FM** can not. We are not sure whether this is due to lower power by **KISS**, or a more directional array. The new relay of **Music Power FM** (96.2MHz.) on 104.3MHz., is understood to be having severe problems linking from its studio in Carrickmacross. This is thought to be due to the closeness of **Rainbow Radio** in Carrickcarnon, Co. Louth, with its new 250 watt transmitter on 96.0MHz. This has resulted in just 'mush' being relayed on 104.3MHz. for a lot of the time. We understand that AM transmissions are planned for this station also. **Northern Star**, broadcasting from mobile studios on 999kHz. only, are anxious to re - locate in Monaghan town and introduce an FM service, our reporter in the area tells us. **Hometown Radio** on 981kHz., from Castleblayney, closed down for the Christmas and then the New Year holidays. According to **Radio West**, shortage of staff would be the cause here. Finally in this area, we asked our man on the spot, who was trying to reach where and who was actually succeeding. He told us that apart from **Hometown Radio** who were content to broadcast to Castleblayney and surrounds, all five other Co. Monaghan stations were trying to hit Northern Ireland and whilst only two had their sights set on Belfast's lucrative market (**KISS** and **KITS**, hence not too much country music), the other three were looking to gain advertisers from counties Armagh and Tyrone. Of these three, the long established Big 'M' were far ahead of the other two relative newcomers, although these (**Music Power** and **Northern Star**) had their sights firmly set on these areas also.

Co. LOUTH. The low power station operating from Dunleer, **Tower Radio 108** (107.9MHz.), is understood to be still broadcasting on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings, with a range of about 5 miles around the town. A different musical format tends to be broadcast on a particular night (Easy listening on Saturday and L.P. tracks on Sunday). Another part time only station from this area, **Rainbow Radio Int.**, can be heard each Sunday morning on 1521kHz.AM, FM and SW, although at this point in time, only a relay called 'Ron's Message from God' seems to emanate from the **Rainbow** transmitter.

Co. MEATH. The move to 105.0MHz. by **Radio Carousel Navan** has been quite successful, as it can now be heard quite often here in Blackpool. Following the end of live programming, the station normally transmit a continuous tape of music throughout the night. However, either the tape machine is faulty, or the cassette itself, as it suffers from a terrible 'wow' all the time. Their medium wave transmitter on 1386kHz., seems to be operating as normal, following a time off air a few weeks ago, due to a location transfer.

Co. CAVAN. Sean gives us a comprehensive report of the happenings at **Breffi Regional Radio** up to and over the Christmas period. The station was off the air on 1170kHz., from 21:00 on Tuesday 15th December, until the early afternoon of Thursday 17th December. This was due to problems with the transmitting cable on the AM transmitter mast. **Breffi** continued broadcasting on 95.6MHz. only. During the time that 1170kHz. was blank, a few telephone calls were received, but not as many as would usually be received when AM transmissions cease. Perhaps listeners in this area are beginning to listen more to FM? The FM



signal on 95.6MHz., is presently running at just over 1kW, and is getting out far and wide. Reception reports have been received from areas as far away as Ballinasloe, Co. Galway, and from County Offaly. The powerful FM signal is particularly helpful at night, as reception on 1170kHz. at this time, is often impossible, even locally.

In the run up to Christmas, Breffni Regional Radio were carrying a substantial amount of commercials, in fact it was possible to play only two records between commercial breaks, about the same as **Erneside Radio**, who are renowned for their lengthy adverts. Santa Claus was to make his annual visit to the station on Christmas Eve, to read out letters from children in the area, which had already been received at the station in large quantities. A promotion enticing children to write in, was aired on Breffni during the weeks leading up to Christmas. Another promotion which was aired at the same time in early December, asked listeners with relatives in Boston, or Chicago to send in requests for them. Once all requests have been collated, a special programme will be put out on cassette, and this will in turn be sent to two individual stations in the aforementioned cities. These shows were hoped to be aired in the Boston and Chicago areas on one day during Christmas week. Similar shows are being produced by one station in each city, for transmission on Breffni Regional Radio around the same period. Another feature of Christmas on Breffni, was an attempt to telephone Irish people in various parts of the world, on numbers which have been sent into the station from listeners in the Midlands area. The station was on the air throughout Christmas, with its usual mixture of Irish and American country music. The station continues to suffer with problems on medium wave, as the transmitter on 1170kHz. has been noted missing on occasions in the last few days.

**Co. DONEGAL.** According to Radio West, **KTOK** have been off 1566kHz., for a few weeks. FM continues as normal though, we understand.

**Co. MAYO.** Again, heard on Radio West, **Mid West Radio** have lost their Westport FM transmitter in a fire. The other various FM transmitters continue along with 1233kHz. and 1332kHz., the former being very strong and the latter very weak at present.

**Co. GALWAY.** In Ballinasloe, **Kandy Radio** on 100.8MHz. only, have been off air for a couple of days. This is due to a move of studio location, we believe. Further details are awaited. Meanwhile, in neighbouring Loughrea, **Galway District Radio** are reported off and on FM, but definitely not on AM. They bought the Kandy transmitter on 1404kHz., but as yet, it has not been heard on air.

**Co. KERRY.** All the talk this holiday period has been about **South West Radio** from Killarney, who have been heard on wide band FM on short wave, 6565kHz. This new type of long range link system is difficult to receive on a standard set, although some of the more modern communication sets do have narrow band FM and enable the listener to decode the broadcasts a little better. The signal can be picked up all over Europe and stands up well after dark, considering it is only operating with 4 watts. An increase in power is expected shortly. The person in charge at SWR is Basil Hendricks, assisted by Dermot Morriarty, both are well known country music artists. Basil told us on the telephone that the station operates on FM, on 104, 104.6, 105 and 95.6MHz. to this rather mountainous area of Kerry. Medium wave would be useless under such circumstances. Music is two thirds Irish and one third American country, ballads, folk and the occasionally oldie, and is dictated by the listeners,

who ring in very often. No pop music is played, nor are specialist music programmes featured. Advertising is healthy and currently the station boasts 117 adverts. A large area is covered by the various FM transmitters and other stations in this area are **Big 'K'** from Tralee, a small operation only, and **Kingdom 102** from Killarney also, who feature all pop music. We hope to have further reports from this area at some time, and possibly to have the chance to offer a high quality FM, C.90 cassette of the station.

**Co. CORK.** Although not confirmed, we believe that **Radio ERI** are back on channel on 1305kHz. We are now able to listen to Drogheda - based **Boyneside Radio** in the evenings, without the dreadful heterodyne whistle we have had to suffer of late. Well done ERI, but not before time.

**RADIO CAROLINE. (up - date).** Due to printing the back page early, some of the news had not arrived in, so here is the log from Tuesday, 29th December until the present time. The line - up on Tuesday, was as we left it... 06:00 Chris Kennedy... 09:00 Mike Dixon... 13:00 Steve Masters... 17:00 Chris Kennedy... 18:00 Closedown. On 30th December, the programmes were the same as Tuesday, until 18:00, except that the station was off the air for a short period in the afternoon. Then at 18:00, John Bibby made a return for just one hour, until 19:00, when the female cook came in and did an hour until closedown at 20:00. She called herself Rowena Wilde. There was understood to be very little speech during these two shows. New Year's Eve, saw a normal start at 06:00 with Chris Kennedy, and Mike Dixon following at 09:00. At 10:00 however, Mike watts came in the studios to do a special programme featuring 'the ones that got away in 1987'. This took the time to 11:00, when another special programme was aired, 'The Top 50 records of 1987'. Steve Conway played numbers 50 down to 26, which took the time to 12:40, when Chris Kennedy sat in, and played the Top 25 records, the Number 1 ('Heart and Soul' by T'Pau) at 14:20. Mike Dixon then picked up his programme where he left off earlier in the day, and continued until 15:00 when Steve Masters took control. Rowena Wild did a much longer programme this day, from 19:00 until 22:00, when the New Year's Eve Party began. This year, it was Steve Conway and Mike Watts who brought in the New Year, although all the staff were in the studio at one time or another. The party ended at 01:42, when Mike Dixon continued with a programme of his own. The Breakfast Show on New Year's Day was hosted by John Bibby until 10:00, only his third show since Christmas Day, when he was first noted on air. Both he and Rowena also did shows later in the day, up until closedown, which is now back at 20:00. Yesterday (2nd January 1988), the station was late on the air, with Steve Masters opening up at 06:15. At 09:00 Chris Kennedy came on, but at around 10:10, the signal dropped drastically and the station left the air. They were back on with normal power at 10:25, played one record and then at 10:30, Chris Kennedy announced that due to rough weather damaging the aerial system, they would leave the air for a few hours. The station has not been heard since. A comment the previous day, indicated that the insulator was still the problems, as it kept catching fire.

#### **LAND - BASED STATIONS...LONDON.**

Following the massive DTI activity, during which almost every station was raided just prior to Christmas, most operators were back on the air throughout the holiday. There were very few 'special Bank Holiday broadcasters', unlike previous years, although the New Year brought about the return of the legendary Alice's Restaurant. They were on a similar frequency to London Rock, so could well be sharing the transmitter. An address was given out in Dagenham, along with a Harlow telephone number. An unidentified Soul / funk station was heard on Christmas Eve, on 93.5MHz. and the Essex - based Stomp FM were on the air on Christmas Day, on 105.4MHz. Sina Radio (90.9) now seem to have dropped to 90.7, presumably due to Faze 1 being a regular on this channel once again. Kiss FM was conspicuous by its absence yesterday, but was back on this morning, so a raid was not thought to have occurred.

Stations reported on air this weekend include..... 88.3 UNID.(Greek), 88.6 CDR, 89.6 Alice's Restaurant, 90.0 RJR, 90.25 RTR, 90.6 Passion, 90.9 Faze 1, 90.9/7 Sina, 91.7 Sky FM, 92.0 LWR, 92.7 Studio FM, 93.0 Solar, 93.95 Kiss FM, 94.25 RFM, 94.3 Starpoint, 94.5 City Radio, 96.9 Girls FM, 97.9 Traffic Jam, 102.4 TKO / CD 10:24, 102.8 Melody FM, 103.3 Fresh FM, 103.7 Time FM, 104.3 UNID.(Greek), 104.4 JBC, and 105.2 Raiders FM.

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105 FM Presented By: FM 5

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105 FM



## LAND - BASED STATIONS.

### LONDON CHRISTMAS SURVEY - 18th to 29th December 1987.

On the weekend before Christmas (18 - 21 Dec.), and the actual Christmas weekend (24 - 28 Dec.), locked into 36 stations, 13 in stereo. New for this period were.... **Groove FM** (89.75), **Radio Weir**d (94.25 - through R - FM), **Ram Jam Radio** (89.90) and unid. **Asian** (104.30), probably London Asian Radio.

Missing / Not Heard..... **Clockwork Radio**, **Soul FM** and **SW Sound** (Christmas week).

Busted..... Virtually everyone, except, it seems, **Traffic Jam**, **Fresh** and **JBC**.

Returned..... All those busted except **Watford's Playback** (93.2), who were thought to have gone for good, but returned on Sunday 20th December and then were busted again within 24 hours. Also **Passion** (90.65) and **Faze 1** (90.95 - note corrected spelling).

In a mild London Town with not a hint of snow, much was expected of London's privateers, but in the event, only one special station was locked into, and that was through a time share. **Tony Blackburn** did threaten to set up the largest privateer station of them all, in the event of the BBC closing the closest thing to a soul station in the U.K., but, isn't there a **Radio Blackburn** already? [There used to be, but in the BBC's expansionist policy, it is now called **Radio Lancashire**, and uses 5 transmitters instead of 1! A Southern equivalent was **Radio Brighton**, which grew into **Radio Sussex**, and also wastes 5 frequencies.] Then, the DoTI people call out the strong arm squads and went rampaging around London.

A wide range of stations was available for the discerning listener, with **Greek**, **Indian**, **Hip - Hop**, **Soul**, **Reggae**, various **Rock** stations, **Pop**, **Oldies**, **Community Talk** programmes and **Jazz**. On most could be heard a range of drunken drivers at the controls, which brought problems to a number of stations as record arms and discs collided in the most spectacular way, amid gales of uncontrollable laughter.

In a determined effort to cut to zero the number of stations on air for Christmas, the DoTI Reggaecide squads went on the offensive in a big way when they turned out in force for the annual pre - Christmas culling of the Privateer Industry. An objective in which they very nearly succeeded. A severe thinning of the ranks unsued as the Men from the Ministry pressed on with unaccustomed determination and attempted to take out link transmitters, aerial arrays and, where possible, studios.

Friday 18th December saw the first busts with **Faze 1** (90.95) going out only hours after the return from a week of silence. In quick succession after that, followed **BGCR**, and 'poppers' **Raiders FM** on Saturday 19th. Sunday 20th saw the disappearance of **Studio FM**, **Solar 93**, **Playback FM**, **Kiss FM**, **City Radio**, **TKO** and **SE London newcomers**, **Groove FM**. Monday 21st December came and still there was no reduction in activity as the reggae - cide squads whipped themselves into a frenzy, rushing from one side of town to the other, to take out **CDR**, **GRCL**, **LWR**, **Sky FM** and **Girls FM**. Tuesday 22nd, and the exhausted DoTI people could only pick up **RTR**, followed on Wednesday by **Time FM**. Micro - powered **SW Sound** may have been taken out on Sunday 20th, as they were not heard as anticipated over the Christmas period.

The determination of the reggae - cide squads meant that although supplies of transmitters seem to be plentiful, aerial set - ups and studio set - ups were not so readily re - assembled. The result was that with the exception of **Playback FM**, all those busted returned for Christmas, but in some cases (**LWR**, **RTR**, **RJR**, **Kiss**, **Girls FM**) in a severely reduced power mode. Possibly because of equipment deficiencies, or possibly mindful of the excessive zeal of the reggae - cide squads in taking out stations, some were unusually slow to return. Discretion was probably needed at a time like this.

Totally unaffected, as far as can be told, were **Traffic Jam** (97.9), **LGR** (96.1 - who returned on 19th), **Fresh FM** and **JBC**. The two Indian stations from Southall, **SRI** and **Sangam** (thought to be **Hangra** in the last report) were both unaffected and although it was difficult to keep track of them after the return of **Passion Radio** (90.65) and **Faze 1** (90.95), who had both been off air all week due to previous busts, they were not positively locked on to after Christmas Day. It seems unlikely that the DoTI would have activated a squad on that day, no matter how desperate the call for overtime.

**LWR** (92.3 and 92.05, both stereo) brought **Wayne Turner** out of retirement to host their re - opening shows on at least two occasions. **LWR** had moved up to 92.3 for the duration of the holiday period. But yet another bust saw them dragging out yet another back - up transmitter on the old 92.05 slot. It is also thought possible that they have moved from the mountain top home in **Crystal Palace** to a new temporary home as reception has been very bad for some time now, with very noisy stereo.

A welcome return to **K - JAZZ** (94.45) who although they knocked out the returned **City Radio** (94.40) in South London, provided a full weekend's service of a wide range of jazz and added to the variety of sound available.

**KISS - FM's** (93.95 st.) announcement of a full 7 day / 24 hour service for the Christmas and New Year period obviously upset the **DTI**, as they were taken out less than six hours on, but returned on low power stereo, two days later (Mon 21st December), and resumed full power transmissions a day or two after that.

'Golden Groovers' **Hits - FM** (105.5 and 105.6MHz., sometimes in stereo) have turned up in various guises, powers and frequencies over the two week period. Saturday, 19th December, saw them only on air during the day, as they had gone by mid evening, possibly on a bust. The following weekend saw **Raiders - FM** (105.25), who themselves had suffered a bust shortly after coming on air the previous week, on air at their usual Friday 2pm time, with their usual mix of pop to rock. Boxing Day saw them trailing **Hits FM** as the overnight service. At first it was thought that there had been a Christmas link - up, and possibly **Hits** had lost their transmitter the previous week. So, whether this was meant to be a time share, a relay, or just lifting the name, was not possible to establish. **Hits** did turn up the next day, Boxing Day, and continued through until 8pm Sunday, when they closed after an hour or two of stereo test. **Hits** also turned up on **Radio Weir**d (94.25MHz Boxing Day ? to 9pm) through the auspices of time share with East London rockers **Rock - FM**. **Radio Weir**d programme a mixture of a continuous stream of consciousness, with a collage of scratch mixing, almost, but not quite like the sound effects sections of a mid seventies **Pink Floyd** album. Music was mixed with layered s/fx all mixed in with long slow fades of, amongst other things, short hyena type laughs, and a telephone ringing. Possibly a bit wearing for the casual listener, so maybe the station title was well chosen after all. They closed just after 9pm with a voice - over, apologising the inclusion of interruptions from **Hits FM**, as they were considered to be even weirder than **Radio Weir**d.

**Rock - FM's** **Magnificent Seven** were noted at a number of times, when programming was not as usual. Apart from the predictable drinking and driving at the turntable, they obviously felt they needed to support beleaguered **BBC radio** London, and relayed the **Robbie Vincent** telephone programme on **Bank Holiday Monday**. By the evening, they were back to some hard rocking and acting as though nothing had been happening at all.

**Ram - Jam Radio** (89.9MHz.) appeared on Boxing Day and caused some confusion. The sound was mono, thin and slightly distorted, and every time the presenter tried to speak, the transmitter tripped out. It was assumed that it was **RJR** having a bad day, and using a full ID (check the initials). **RJR** have been off their normal slot of 90.1MHz. stereo, for a week or two following a series of busts where everything was lost, and have been on 89.95 / 90.0 ever since. So, with no **RJR** signal being apparent that day, the wrong assumption was made. However, it appeared as though **RJR** had taken Christmas Eve and Christmas Day off to refurbish their gear, as on Christmas Sunday they re appeared in their accustomed slot in full power stereo. **Ram - Jam** are a heavy reggae station linked in patois, with so far, poor mixing and links, and alot of back to back tapes.

**Bank Holiday Monday** saw a full 25 stations on air, at various times. **Solar 93** (93.0 stereo) turned the evening over to the 'Solar Party', with dance records which are not normally played. These were mainly dance hits of the fifties and sixties, played non - stop, with no voice overs at all.

Although it was expected that the weekend stations would have extended their broadcasts to cover the **Bank Holiday**, none did. Maybe they are just re - charging their batteries in time for **New Year**. More next time."

A list of the station heard in the city over this weekend (1st - 3rd January 1988), along with other bits of news, can be found elsewhere in the land - based section.



**YORKSHIRE, HUMBERSIDE and DERBYSHIRE.** We start off in South Humberside this time around, with a report that **WLNG** (104.95MHz.) were on the air with another test transmission on Thursday 17th December. The presenter heard was Stuart Graham. The station closed down at 22:15. The following is an extract from WLNG Newsletter No. 4, (dated 10th December) which gives an up dated account on what is happening at the station. "As most of you will now know, we have not been with you since the middle of September. This was due to us having to move from our studio in Scunthorpe. We lost the lease to the offices, and were only given a matter of days to vacate - contrary to what you may have read in the local press. The good news is that our studios are nearing completion, and we hope to be back with you in a few weeks. Suffice it to say, we are planning a Christmas special, so expect to hear us back on 104.95 FM very soon. Thanks very much to everyone who has written to us in reply to our requests for reception reports. Our test transmissions have gone out every Thursday for the past three weeks, and your response has been quite surprising. In answer to questions in your reception reports, we use a 60 watt TX into a  $\frac{1}{4}$  wave dipole on very high ground. This is possibly why we travel so far. If you would like to know more about us, we have a document printed that costs 50p (all proceeds go to our station fund), that will give you an insight into our proposals for the future - please write and ask for one, and we will send it by return." The address for correspondence with the above station is Media Promotions, P.O. Box 32, Scunthorpe, South Humberside. When writing, please do not put WLNG on the envelope, just Media Promotions. With the recent appearance of BBC Radio 1 on 104.8MHz., in order to serve the South East of England, many areas in the North have been receiving this channel during periods of good 'skip' conditions. The station will remain on 104.95MHz., unless the new 104.8MHz. Radio 1 channel becomes recognised as one specifically for the area which WLNG covers.

Following a successful run of programming, **ABC - FM** (105.1MHz.) in Leeds were noted with what seemed to be lots of problems in the week leading up to Christmas. From Sunday 20th December, their transmitter was on and off, and when it had been on the air, only 'white noise' was heard for a substantial period. No reason for the problems is known, however they were back with regular programmes on Christmas Eve, and all over the festive period. Despite the holiday, when plenty of staff were expected to be available, there were still gaps in programming when only continuous music or a blank carrier were being transmitted. The station uses plenty of Bill Mitchell jingles, and also carries several advertisements, although these tend to be mainly for recently released soul records. **Music City Radio** (90.3MHz.) didn't appear to have any special extended programmes over the last couple of weeks. They were simply keeping to their regular schedule of Friday nights, in addition to Saturday and Sunday afternoon and evenings. No other activity was noted in the Leeds area besides these two regular stations.

**Radio Veronica** (105.5MHz.) has been the only station heard from the Bradford area throughout the past two weeks. On Sunday 20th December, they made their normal scheduled transmission with an excellent signal. Stephen was heard until 20:35, then Neil until 21:40. The girls then followed, with Julie hosting until Christine took over at 22:15. Finally, Ken Crescendo was heard from 23:45 until closedown. The amusing spoof adverts for 'Smellydisc', 'D.T.I. favourites' and the 'B.T. Xmas Party' were aired during the evening. The promised Christmas special extended broadcast from the station did not appear, however they did take to the air on the evening of Sunday, 27th December for what would have been their regular show anyway. It was obviously party time at the Veronica studio, and throughout the evening whilst the microphone was open, plenty of chattering could be heard in the background. They left the air for a few seconds at around 23:20, but this seemed to be more a case of the transmitter had been accidentally un - plugged in the party atmosphere, than anything else. Later on, at 01:27, the transmitter cut off mid - record, and wasn't heard again. The signal this particular evening was reported to be a little weaker than normal.

In Derbyshire, things were fairly busy over the past two weeks, with **Radio Freedom** operating for much of the period between 25th and 28th December. Their transmissions on 105.0MHz., were on throughout this time, but the medium

wave transmitter on 1242kHz., was off the air on 26th December due to a fault. **North Midlands Radio** operated on 105.5MHz., on 18th December between about 20:30 and 21:45. A postal address of N.M.R., P.O. Box 5, Hunstanton, Norfolk was announced, and the programmes consisted mainly of chart music, with some humour introduced in the form of cut up IRN news stories.

**Solid Soul Radio** from Conisborough were heard on Saturday, 19th December, testing out a new transmitter on 105.8MHz. They also mentioned that their old transmitter was being tested. Full broadcasts are to begin in the New Year on 105.8MHz. An old tape appeared to be played, with an occasional announcement saying that the broadcast was just a test. The station went off at 20:00. They were on the air again two days later (21st December), but their signal on 105.8MHz., was reported as being a little weaker. This time, just continuous music was being played, but just prior to closedown, at 20:55, a voice calling himself Tony, said that S.S.R. had been off the air due to problems with their home built transmitter. At the same time as Solid Soul Radio were conducting this test, another signal was heard on 105.6MHz., just playing pop music. No identification was noted for this one.



There's something for everyone interested in Free Radio within the latest issue of **Wavelength**;

**CHARLIE WOLF** talks about radio in the United States and Great Britain.

**MIKE ROSS** reveals the 'Confessions of an Anorak' in London.

**BOB POWELL** describes the Operation at Sunshine 101 in Dublin

**MARK THYME** reviews receivers in 'DIY Radio'

Plus our comprehensive round up of Free Radio around Europe. Short Wave, Medium Wave, FM and a detailed account of the aerial collapse on the 'Ross Revenge'

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**THE SOUTH COAST.** In our last issue, we mentioned that a listener had heard **Radio Boulogne Littoral (R.B.L.)**, around 105MHz. This mystery has still not been cleared up, as it was definitely not ABC Radio in Eastbourne, whom we speculated might have been testing out a transmitter using the audio from R.B.L. Has anyone else any ideas?



Whilst on the subject of R.B.L., their link - up with local 'free' monthly magazine 'Sound's Good' seems to be going well. In an interesting twist to advertising, a combined package is being offered with adverts being produced and put out by R.B.L., in addition to those placed in the magazine. The station's newest recruit is Simon West, who worked on Radio Caroline recently, and currently hosts the 23:30 - 01:00 spot on Monday night / Tuesday morning. Paul Graham is currently taking a break due to other radio commitments,



although he is thought to be returning to the schedule sometime in January. The line - up is currently the same as that printed below (re - printed from November's 'Sounds Good'), apart from the exceptions just mentioned.

## RBL NEWS NOVEMBER 1987

### RBL SOUTH KENTS MORE MUSIC STATION EXTENDS ITS PROGRAMMES.

SOUTH KENT'S MORE MUSIC FM STATION, RBL, WHICH BROADCASTS FROM THE FRENCH COAST TO SOUTH EAST ENGLAND IS RE-ARRANGING IT'S PROGRAMME SCHEDULES DURING NOVEMBER.

IT'S SATURDAY & SUNDAY NIGHT PROGRAMME LINK-UP HAS BEEN EXTENDED. ON SATURDAY NIGHTS THE RBL INTERNATIONAL SERVICE STARTS AT 9.30 WITH JEFF JOHNSON, 11.00 IS THE NEW TIME FOR THE POPULAR "RBL REMEMBERS" OLDIES SHOW FEATURING THE BEST MUSIC FROM THE '60s, '70s & EARLY '80s. THIS IS PRESENTED BY PAUL GRAHAM WHO SPENT MOST OF THE SUMMER AWAY FROM RBL OUT IN THE THAMES ESTUARY ON BOARD RADIO CAROLINE. 12.30 IS THE TIME FOR A NEW SHOW ON RBL "THE RBL ROCKSTORE" FEATURING QUALITY ROCK TRACKS BOTH NEW & OLD, THIS IS PRESENTED BY MARK ALLEN & TIM STEWART. SATURDAY NIGHT IS ROUNDED OFF WITH SOME RBL NIGHT TRACKS THROUGH TO 5 AM.

THE SUNDAY NIGHT PROGRAMMES START AT 10.00 PM WITH PETE SIMESTER, 11.30 SEES A NEW NAME TO THE RBL SCHEDULES, MARTIN STANDEN, REGULARS AT DUSTYS DISCO IN ASHFORD WILL KNOW HIS VOICE WELL AS MARTIN IS THE FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHT DEEJAY THERE. MARTIN TURNER TAKES OVER UNTIL 2.30 WHEN IT'S MORE CLASSIC TRACKS WITH RBL NIGHT TRACKS.

MONDAY NIGHTS START AT 7.00 PM WITH MARK DANIELS, FOLLOWED BY 8.30 BY ONE OF THANETS TOP CLUB DEEJAYS TIM STEWART. TIM IS THE RESIDENT DEEJAY AT THORLEYS & FRANKS IN CLIFTONVILLE.

THE HIGHLIGHT OF TIM'S MONDAY NIGHT SHOW IS A CHANCE TO WIN BIG MONEY IN THE "RBL BIG CASH GIVEAWAY". JUST DROP RBL A LINE WITH YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER AND MAKE SURE YOU LISTEN IN ON MONDAY NIGHT AT 8.30 WHEN TIM GIVES OUT "THE PHRASE THAT PAYS". YOU COULD BE THE LUCKY ONE WHO GETS A CALL & A CHANCE OF THE BIG CASH!

TEN O'CLOCK ON MONDAY NIGHT IS THE NEW TIME FOR MARK ALLEN & AT 11.30 IT'S "BIG" BILL WEST TO TAKE YOU INTO A TUESDAY MORNING.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON RBL'S INTERNATIONAL SERVICE JUST DROP A LINE TO:-

RBL, PO BOX 5, HUNSTANTON, NORFOLK, PE36 5AU. YOU'LL ALSO GET YOURSELF ONE OF THE NEW RBL CAR STICKERS WHICH WILL BRIGHTEN UP ANY VEHICLE.

RBL IS STILL ON THE LOOK OUT FOR LOCAL GROUP TAPES FOR THEIR MONDAY NIGHT LOCAL GROUP SPOT THESE CAN BE SENT TO THE RBL MAILING ADDRESS OR DROPPED INTO MILL HILL VIDEO, 84 MILL HILL, DEAL, KENT CT14 9JB. PLEASE MARK THEM "RBL LOCAL GROUP SPOT"

WHY NOT GIVE 91.6 FM STEREO A LISTEN THIS COMING SATURDAY, SUNDAY OR MONDAY NIGHT. YOU'LL FIND THE BEST IN QUALITY MUSIC IN STEREO, PRIZE COMPETITIONS AND A GUARANTEE OF MORE MUSIC PER HOUR THAN ANY OTHER FM STATION.

We hope to continue to have 'R.B.L. News', as a regular feature in future editions of WR.

MERSEYSIDE. The headlines are not good news in this section.... Dave Starr, a D.J. on Central Radio and Radio Merseyland was killed when his taxi was involved in a collision with a private car over the weekend before Christmas. Condolences to his family and friends. The other shock news is that Radio Merseywaves may well have closed down.

But back to the story of events and first of all we had a mystery station reported to us recently, which we hope our readers might be able to help us with. A station was heard in mid - December on a frequency on the lower side of BBC Radio 1 (1026kHz?), calling itself **South Wirral Community Radio**. At first it was thought that it was North Coast Radio on a new frequency, as a mention was given to the station's night out on 22nd December. The D.J. on the air was calling himself 'D.J.H', and he announced that the station would be transmitting for the one weekend before the transmitter was taken across the Pennines to a location in North Yorkshire. Also mentioned were Roy (security) and Tony West, with the announcement that the show was being recorded, and would be forwarded on to Roy and Tony as a demo - tape, following a visit he received in mid-November. Programmes were said to be professional. A 'phone - in' was featured, which, "had an overwhelming response for a station which had only been on the air for a few hours". A mailing address was given on the 'Ford Estate', but it wasn't all noted down. Does anyone know anything else about this station. Was it the old Storeton Community Radio transmitter on 1026kHz?

Another mystery station playing non - stop music was reportedly heard on Sunday night (20th December) at around 23:00, on a frequency of 1528kHz. This station was thought to be the same as one which identified on Tuesday 22nd December as **Kirby Community Radio**. On this day, the frequency was 1524kHz., and test transmissions were being announced as on 199 metres / 1521kHz. A nice selection of rock music was being played, and the presenter sounded very familiar (Stephen Bishop?), although he didn't announce his name. The transmitter left the air at around 14:30, with mentions that more tests may occur later in the evening on 1512kHz., but references to next year were also given. These were not noted however.

Now, on to the regular operators in this area. We left **Radio Merseywaves** (1242kHz.) on the Sunday prior to Christmas (20th December), not knowing as to what the schedule would be over the holidays. Problems with staff shortages etc., had caused Burt Williams to make a few comments about how long he could keep the station going. However, the station was heard on both Monday and Tuesday (21st and 22nd) as normal, but comments were noted, which made us think that Merseywaves would not then be on the air until Christmas Day. We were proved wrong though, when Merseywaves burst into life on Wednesday afternoon (23rd), and then continued to broadcast quite late, returning again on Thursday at 09:00, broadcasting until 19:00. Despite promises, the station failed to appear on Christmas Day, but duly returned on Boxing Day at 09:00 with Kevin Jordan. These broadcasts terminated at 23:00 and the station has not been heard since. They obviously had a few missing presenters, as many of the jocks were asking for any deejays to come into the station to fill in the schedule. They seemed to manage okay however, and were putting out a good signal throughout the week, although it was not as high as that of **North Coast Radio** (1350kHz.), who were being received a little better here in Blackpool. We do not think that 'Chernobyl' (the big transmitter) was in operation at Merseywaves, as the signal was certainly not as high as the special broadcasts which went out over Christmas 1986. Continuing with North Coast Radio, the station was putting out a large signal once more, although the modulation seemed to be a little variable, with some days being distorted and other days a little low in level. Most of the time however, the audio is at one level. The station did manage continuous broadcasts and apart from an odd break or two, remained on air most of the day and often well into the night, right up until Tuesday morning (29th), 02:00. The carrier was noted during Tuesday daytime, but nothing further was heard until New Year's Day (Friday), when again just a blank carrier was noted. It is not known if the station commenced programmes late on 1st January, but they were certainly well into the swing of things when we tuned in on Saturday morning, 2nd January. The signal was once again very strong. Noted marathon rock show presenter, Phil Davies, was heard on this station last weekend, during which programme he

(continued on page 9, after shortwave stations.)



**SHORTWAVE STATIONS.**

Due to when Christmas Day,Boxing Day and New Year's Day fell, there was plenty of activity on the shortwave bands. The conditions were good for most of these mornings, although especially on 41 metres, the skip seemed rather long, with the U.S. stations on 7355 and 7365kHz coming through quite well. Many thanks for the logs both sent, and telephoned in over the past two weeks, which enabled us to make the lists below comprehensive, and which came from The Midlands, Devon, Hampshire, and Norfolk.

Both Weekend Music Radio and Radio East Coast Commercial took the holiday opportunity to open the telephone lines, and were talking to listeners live on the air.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Log for Thursday 24th December 1987.**  
 6290kHz...RADIO ORION, at 10:05gmt.  
 6290kHz...U.K. 105, at 12:00gmt.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Log for Christmas Day, Friday 25th December 1987.**  
 6204kHz...RADIO PAMELA, at 11:00.  
 6206kHz...RADIO ARENA, at 09:06gmt.  
 6230kHz...UNID., at 10:40gmt.  
 6240kHz...WEEKEND MUSIC RADIO, at 13:23gmt.  
 6270kHz...RADIO DUCK, at 10:33gmt.  
 6285kHz...UNID., at 09:38gmt.  
 6290kHz...RADIO ORION, at 09:03gmt.  
 6290kHz...U.K. 105, at 14:18gmt.  
 6310kHz...RADIO EAST COAST COMM., at 13:35gmt.  
 6318kHz...RADIO C.L.C.G., at 09:22gmt.  
 6525kHz...KLA RADIO, at 10:45gmt.  
 6850kHz...RADIO SKYWAVE INT., at 09:42gmt.  
 7370kHz...RADIO CALDONIA, at 10:18gmt.  
 7460kHz...WEEKEND MUSIC RADIO, at 13:25gmt.

Radio Arena were having a few modulation problems, which caused several listeners not to be able to identify the station, which has an address of : Postbus 47, 7010 AA Gaanderen, Holland.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Log for Boxing Day, Saturday 26th December 1987.**  
 6210kHz...P.F.B.S., at 10:01gmt.  
 6225kHz...RADIO TITANIC INT., at 11:24gmt.  
 6235kHz...SUD WEST RADIO, at 10:03gmt.  
 6235kHz...RADIO 101, at 10:05gmt.  
 6240kHz...RADIO EAST COAST COMM., at 11:01gmt.  
 6271kHz...RADIO LUCE (via R.W.I.), at 09:35gmt.  
 6271kHz...RADIO WAVES INT., at 10:05gmt.  
 6280kHz...UNID., at 13:10gmt.  
 6285kHz...WEEKEND MUSIC RADIO, at 13:15gmt.  
 6290kHz...RADIO ORION, at 13:05gmt.  
 6295kHz...UNID., at 10:50gmt.  
 6299kHz...W.F.R.L., at 13:02gmt.  
 6306kHz...BRITAIN RADIO INT., at 13:00gmt.  
 6311kHz...S.B.C., at 09:53gmt.  
 6550kHz...KLA RADIO, at 10:10gmt.  
 6570kHz...SOUTH WEST RADIO, at 10:11gmt.  
 6850kHz...RADIO SKYWAVE INT., at 13:20gmt.  
 7290kHz...RADIO MADISON, at 10:30gmt.  
 7365kHz...RADIO AQUARIUS INT., at 10:09gmt.

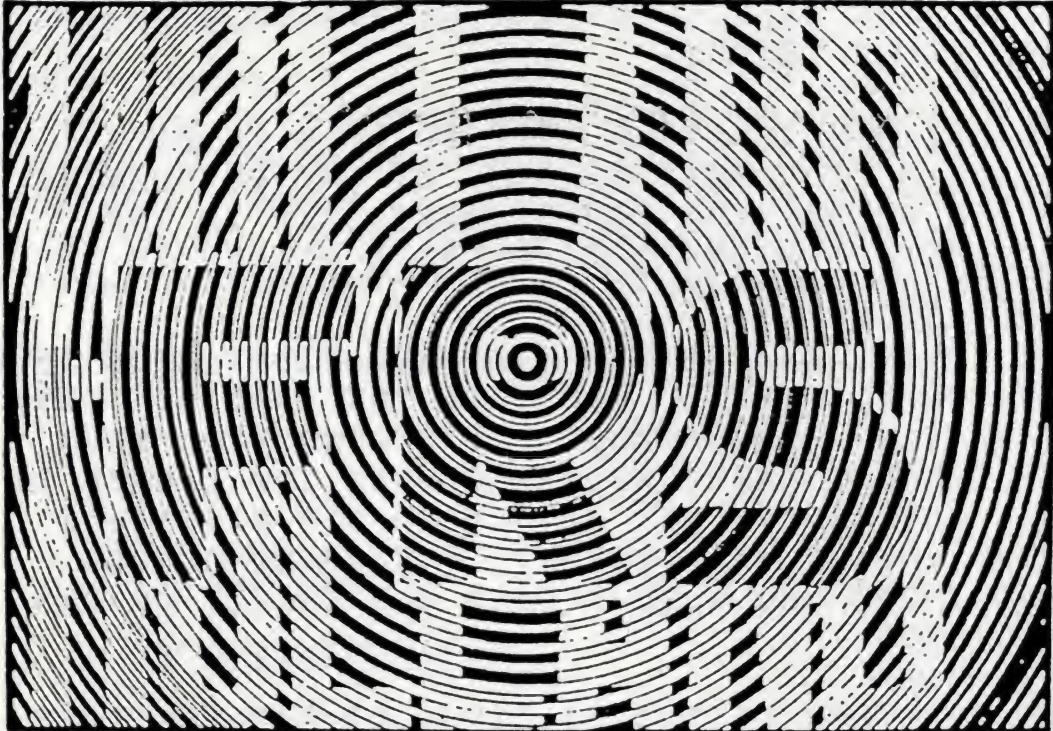
The unidentified station on 6280kHz was conducting a test with a microphone (testing 1, 2 etc.), as well as playing some music.

**South West Community Radio**  
 Castle Heights, Killamey, Co. Kerry. Tel. (064) 32511  
**THE TEN MOST REQUESTED SONGS OF THE WEEK**

1. (2) Answer Me — Basil Hendrick.  
 2. (8) Part of Me — Foster & Allen.  
 3. (1) Pat Murphy's Meadow — Daniel O'Donnell.  
 4. (3) Old Ireland over Here — Dermot Moriarty.  
 5. (5) Come Home Danny Boy — Seamus McGee.  
 6. (N/E) One Promise Too Late — Roba McEntire.  
 7. (N/E) We Belong in Love To Night — John Conlee.  
 8. (20) Lay Down Beside Me — The Morrissey's.  
 9. (N/E) The Black Sheep — Foster & Allen.  
 10. (13) Hills of Greymore — P.J. Murrihy.

South West Radio on 6570kHz, is believed to be a relay in narrow band FM mode, of a station of this name located in Killarney, Co. Kerry in the Irish Republic. South West Radio operate on 105MHz., with an address of Castle Heights, Killarney. The source of this signal is somewhat a mystery, although it could be the operator of Radio 101 conducting some tests. This station has been relayed in the past via the Radio 101 transmitter.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Log for Sunday 27th December 1987.**  
 6206kHz...E.M.R., at 12:54gmt.  
 6225kHz...RADIO ATLANTIQUE 2000, at 09:27gmt.  
 6240kHz...RADIO RAINBOW INT., at 11:02gmt.  
 6240kHz...RON'S MESSAGE FROM GOD, at 11:04gmt.  
 6275kHz...DELTA TANGO, at 14:05gmt.  
 6276kHz...RADIO NEPTUNE INT., ay 10:12gmt.  
 6280kHz...WESTSIDE RADIO INT., at 12:25gmt.  
 6285kHz...WEEKEND MUSIC RADIO, at 12:46gmt.  
 6290kHz...RADIO ORION, at 10:18gmt.  
 6290kHz...U.K. 105, at 12:51gmt.  
 6306kHz...BRITAIN RADIO INT., at 12:44gmt.  
 6310kHz...UNID., at 13:06gmt.  
 6318kHz...RADIO STELLA, at 10:16gmt.  
 6318kHz...W.L.R., at 12:48gmt.  
 6318kHz..."VOICE OF FREE RADIO", at 14:13gmt.  
 6325kHz...F.R.S. HOLLAND., at 08:58gmt.  
 6325kHz...RADIO NOVA (BELGIUM), at 12:58gmt.  
 6525kHz...KLA RADIO, at 09:32gmt.  
 6550kHz...KLA RADIO, at 09:14gmt.  
 6570kHz...SOUTH WEST RADIO, at 12:27gmt.  
 6600kHz...UNID., at 12:55gmt.  
 6850kHz...RADIO SKYWAVE INT., at 12:37gmt.  
 7295kHz...RADIO ATLANTIQUE 2000, at 09:52gmt.  
 7318kHz...F.R.S. HOLLAND, at 09:19gmt.  
 7361kHz...RADIO 101, at 08:53gmt.  
 7423kHz...S.B.C., at 09:16gmt.  
 7423kHz...RADIO BENELUX (via S.B.C.), at 10:14gmt.  
 7423kHz...RADIO STELLA, at 12:22gmt.



FREE RADIO ON SHORTWAVE FROM HOLLAND TO EUROPE

\*\*\*\*\*  
 An occurrence which rears its ugly head from time time, caused a few problems on the 48 metre band today. This consisted of someone operating a transmitter with a 760Hz tone, for the sole purpose of broadcasting on top of a station already on the air. Weekend Music Radio were followed around the band by this 'jammer', and judging by comments heard on WMR by Jack Russell and Dave Anderson, Radio Orion had also fallen prey to this transmitter earlier in the day. WMR started off on 6285kHz., and then moved to 6240kHz due to this tone. The tone followed them to 6240kHz., so Jack Russell re - tuned his transmitter to 6315kHz., only to find that almost immediately the jammer followed. Later in the afternoon, following the relays of WL.R. and Radio Stella, Gary St. John came on the air on 6317kHz as "the Voice of Free Radio", and also denounced the jamming.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Log for Monday 28th December 1987.**  
 6233kHz...RADIO ORION, at 13:21gmt.  
 6290kHz...RADIO ORION, at 10:54gmt.  
 6290kHz...U.K. 105, at 11:16gmt.  
 6316kHz...WEEKEND MUSIC RADIO, at 11:00gmt.  
 6565kHz...SOUTH WEST RADIO, at 12:00gmt.  
 6600kHz...UNID., at 11:24gmt.



Log for New Year's Day 1988.

6205kHz...RADIO PAMELA INT., at 12:44gmt.  
6235kHz...RADIO ORION, at 12:30gmt.  
6285kHz...W.L.R., at 12:36gmt.  
6285kHz...W.M.R., at 13:35gmt.  
6290kHz...RADIO ORION, at 10:46gmt.  
6315kHz...WEEKEND MUSIC RADIO, at 12:32gmt.  
6526kHz...UNID.  
6565kHz...SOUTH WEST RADIO, at 10:50gmt.  
6730kHz...RADIO ORION, at 11:34gmt.  
7425kHz...UNID., at 11:23gmt.  
7430kHz...UNID., at 11:01gmt.

\*\*\*\*\*

Log for Saturday 2nd January 1988.

6237kHz...RADIO DELTA, at 12:04gmt.  
6290kHz...RADIO ORION, at 12:30gmt.  
6565kHz...SOUTH WEST RADIO, at 11:47gmt.

\*\*\*\*\*

Log for Sunday 3rd January 1988.

6240kHz...RADIO RAINBOW INT., at 11:11gmt.  
6240kHz...RON'S MESSAGE FROM GOD, at 11:12gmt.  
6266kHz...RADIO ELECTRA, at 11:06gmt.  
6270kHz...RADIO TUTENCHAMEN, at 12:20gmt.  
6280kHz...WESTSIDE RADIO INT., at 11:01gmt.  
6290kHz...RADIO ORION, at 10:30gmt.  
6300kHz...STARBOARD SOUND, at 10:02gmt.  
6310kHz...RADIO EAST COAST COMM., at 11:10gmt.  
6318kHz...NORTH DUBLIN COMM. RADIO, at 11:33gmt.  
6318kHz...W.L.R., at 13:07gmt.  
6850kHz...RADIO SKYWAVE INT., at 11:17gmt.  
7315kHz...UNID., at 09:58gmt.  
7361kHz...RADIO 101, at 09:28gmt.  
7365kHz...UNID., at 10:39gmt.  
7367kHz...RADIO AQUARIUS INT., at 10:38gmt.  
7434kHz...UNID., at 09:50gmt.

After several weeks of very good conditions on the shortwave bands, today was an anti - climax, with most stations struggling to break through the very noisy band. Thanks to everyone who supplied us with logs today, from The Midlands, Norwich, Hampshire, Cheshire and Devon. Logs in bold were noted here in Blackpool.

On a frequency around 6269kHz., at 12:31gmt., following the record 'Gambler' by Madonna, a voice was heard announcing that Caroline was being boarded by the authorities and then gave out the ship's position. A Dutch voice then followed with presumably the same statement, before the transmitter cut off. Any ideas? We do however think it was an excerpt from the Radio Monique L.P., which featured this excerpt which was from a cartridge on board, ready to be fired in case of such trouble during Eurosiege '85. North Dublin Community Radio were announcing the shortwave outlet and giving out a telephone number and address for correspondence. A tone was heard throughout the time we listened to this channel, so perhaps this was the jammer that was floating around the band last week.

There was a bit of a mess around 7365/7kHz., as two stations were operating next to each other. Radio Aquarius was clearly identified here on 7367kHz., but at the same time, another station was noted on 7365kHz. with a slightly stronger signal. The language on this one was English, but several jingles were heard in the Dutch language, in between the pop records. The announcement were muffled, and sounded like Radio Gemmen. Does anyone have any ideas on this one? Finally, South West Radio was missing today, on 6565kHz., as the transmitter had been switched off. We were told it would be back on about dusk, with increased power.

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(Merseyside, continued from page 7)

was heard to say that RMW may have closed down. In fact, as we print, Sunday 16:00, RMW has not been heard since Saturday 26th December at 23:00)

Radio Atlantis 252 on 1197kHz. managed a long weekend over the Christmas period, commencing on Thursday 24th until Monday 28th, mainly with presenters Rick Dane and Steve Bishop, but with occasional shows from Andy Davies. At the end of the holiday period, Rick Dane said that they had experienced a few technical problems which had disrupted the schedule. This weekend, the station was noted first on Friday morning, 1st January 1988. In fact, Atlantis were the only station to be heard in Blackpool, from Liverpool / Merseyside on New Year's Day. They were again on the air on Saturday, 2nd January, and as reception conditions were quite good, we managed to listen for a considerable period in the afternoon. Rick Dane was having a few problems with record titles, and he explained that as the broadcast was live, all the tracks being played had been transferred onto tape, as he couldn't afford to lose any more records to the D.T.I., should they happen to raid the studio again. Car stickers were being offered free to anyone who sent a stamped address envelope to : Radio Atlantis, 1 Yew Tree Lane, West Derby, Liverpool 12. This is not the address of the station, so no letters should be sent here, it is only for car stickers. Steven Bishop said that although letters to the station address should not bear the words Radio Atlantis, that Radio Atlantis should be put on the envelope to the stickers address, in order that the person sending the them out, could distinguish which stickers were wanted. Finally, the station were conducting some test transmissions on 199 metres over the weekend. (One being between 17:00 - 18:00 on Saturday, 2nd January 1988). This transmitter, could well have been the same one as we mentioned earlier in this section, which was tested around this frequency as Kirby Community Radio. Unfortunately, the signal was actually on about 1526kHz. and many whistles were noted from stations on either side. Rick Dane said they would be back at 10:00 on Sunday morning, but nothing was noted here until after lunch, when a carrier was evident on 1197kHz. At about 13:45, the Atlantis theme was played, and Steven Bishop announced that the station's studio had been broken into, and all the equipment stolen. The station then left the air.

Radio Veronica 104 were not audible last weekend, at this location, but we understand were on air, with very much reduced power, but with an extended broadcast from early morning until the early hours of Monday. This weekend, they were noted from 15:00 and continue as we go to print with their normal programmes and transmitter power.

The only two other active operators over the Christmas period, apart from the above, were Concept Radio on 104.3MHz., who were noted locally on Christmas Day and Christmas Sunday, and Liverpool Pirate Radio, on 1395kHz., who were noted, again only locally, on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Christmas Day. Concept Radio were also noted locally yesterday (2nd), and today on 104.3MHz. It is possible that LPR were on the air today, on 1395kHz., as a carrier was noted here. Audio was not readable and no identifications could thus be made.

Extra thanks to Tim Jackson and other callers this week, for their assistance in providing us with plenty of logs and news at this busy period.

MANCHESTER. The 24 hour / 7 day per week station, I.C.R. is once again back up in power following the raid several weeks ago. Signal is covering much of Manchester, although is not quite as strong as it used to be. Interestingly enough however, a quick trip to Manchester on Sunday (27th



I LOVE PIRATE RADIO

**RADIO**

**TITANIC**

RTI



THANKS FOR YOUR  
RECEPTION REPORT  
73 AND GOOD DX  
forever!!



Tune in ..  
**TITANIC!**

**YOUR FREE RADIO STATION**

RTI



December) brought no sign of the station, with only ILR's Marcher Sound (103.4MHz.) being audible in the city centre. This was possibly just a coincidence, however, as ICR were having some technical problems, resulting in the transmitter being on and off quite a lot. They were reported back on, later that afternoon.

A letter in from DIY Radio (104.7MHz.) informs us that the station had just completed an eight week stint of Wednesday evening broadcasts up until mid December. Their reception area was not great due to using only 4 watts. However they have been heard around the centre of the city. The station hope to increase power in the new year.

Several weeks ago, we received some information in the post about a station called Radio West, which were to broadcast religious programmes to the North West of England, although from what base, we were not informed. Since then we have had two reports, one from Merseyside and one from Manchester about the station being heard. The frequency the programmes were actually being broadcast on, was 96.4MHz., and the name was "Outlook 963".

I.B.C. (The Illegal Broadcasting Company) have been heard back on the air recently on 104.4MHz., transmitting to the North East side of Manchester and Bury. They were last reported to us on Sunday 27th December.

**IBC**  
radio

back  
on  
air:

early  
december

see us at: **ARENA** 50p  
mon & tue 7pm-10pm  
50p  
This ticket entitles the holder to -  
50p admission on MONDAY ONLY to ARENA  
ROLLERBANK, Rochdale Rd., BURY, featuring  
DJ's from IBC & NO.

**104.4 fm**

**THE MIDLANDS.** Once again, no special Bank Holiday transmissions were noted in this area, only the regular operators, who were.... PCRL on 103.6MHz., who seemed active at all times, as were Enterprise FM on 90.9MHz.

The Asian station, which has been monitored recently, could not be identified by non speaking listeners (possibly Asian Community Radio), but did give out an address, which was copied quite easily.... 36 Monica Road, Smallheath, Birmingham B10 9TT. There was no sign of either Second City Radio or Soul City Radio at all, which seems strange,

as Soul City have been active most Sunday mornings.

UK Radio were heard on the evenings of 24th and 25th December and also on 26th from around 13:00

**SHROPSHIRE.** On Christmas Day, Boxing Day and Sunday 27th, **Sunshine Radio** were active from Ludlow in this county, on 1017kHz., with 40 watts of power. Hours were 08:00 till 14:00, 08:00 till 13:45 and 09:00 till 14:00 respectively.

### Catching the pirates

In his Radio Broadcast article in the September 1987 issue - page 959, Pat Hawker makes a small but very understandable mistake in quoting the House of Lords' decision on the case of Department of Trade and Industry v Rudd given on 4 June 1987.

Since the sentence could encourage unlicensed broadcasters mistakenly to attempt to resist lawful seizure of records and tapes, I should be grateful if you could publish a sentence of correction.

Their Lordships ruled that records and tapes are not apparatus for wireless telegraphy and are therefore not liable to forfeiture by the Courts under section 14(3) of the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1949. However, an RIS officer has power under section 79 of the Telecommunications Act 1984 to "seize and detain, for the purposes of any relevant proceedings, any apparatus or other thing which appears to him to have been used in connection with or to be evidence of the commission of any such offence". This seizure power is not affected by the judgement. Records and tapes are "things" which may be part of the evidence which the RIS needs to put before the Court during the prosecution of an unlicensed broadcaster.

I should underline that this is a detail which in no way undermines the general accuracy of Pat Hawker's reporting.

D. Gane  
Director  
Radio Investigation Service

All shows were live and D.J.'s included Roger Matthews (ex Caroline), who also went under the name of Jack Daniels on Sunshine in the '83/'84 period, James Harding and Stephen Tyrone. A different telephone number was used through the three days broadcasts. It was Tenbury Wells 810583 and it could be coupled to the mixing desk in the studio. No further transmissions were planned for the holiday, but a short test was reportedly heard this morning at 11:00.

'WR' made their regular end of month broadcast on 27th, between 12:00 and 15:15. The frequency noted was 104.8 but during the broadcast was possibly re - tuned, as by 14:00 it was being monitored on 105.6MHz.

**RENFREWSHIRE.** Just one station operated over the past two weeks, and even they failed to appear on Christmas and New Year Days. This station was **Radio Mercury** (96.1), who apart from the two days mentioned, broadcast each Wednesday to Saturday evenings.

**SOUTH YORKSHIRE.** Three stations were heard by a listener in the Rotherham area over Christmas. **Ocean Sound** on 106.3MHz. made one of its rare appearances. **Music Weekend Radio** did likewise on 105.0MHz. and **N - FM** reached this far on 18th December and gave an address of 11 Cook Close, Old Tupton, Chesterfield. The expected **Monica Sound** were not reported heard.

**THE SHETLAND ISLANDS. (Latest).** Just after we had printed the item which follows, a call was received from Ian Anderson, the man behind the **Shetland Islands Broadcasting Company**, and he gave a few more interesting bits and pieces about the station. It has now been on the air for several weeks, and in this short space of time has become recognised as the local radio station by the islanders. The broadcasts are on 96.3MHz., in stereo, and the transmitter the station is using is a professional model of very high standards. Power output is approximately 650 watts E.R.P., from this 250 watt unit. The aerial is 17 metres high, and is located adjacent to the studios, in Lerwick. A radius of about 40 miles is being covered, giving them a good signal into most homes, despite the hilly terrain. Advertisements have been pouring in, as there are no other outlets on the radio in this area to promote their shops / products. Ian and his colleagues feel, that the Government are looking at S.I.B.C., as a 'one station community radio experiment', following the cancellation of the previous attempts at introducing the 21 station experiment. Certainly, it is far enough away from the U.K. mainland not to affect any of the present commercial stations. Also, being run by well known, and respected operators, the government probably feel that it is the only way they are going to test the response to, and the viability of, a station in a low population area. Local news and weather is certainly being taken seriously on the station, as the main news is given out on the hour and half hour, with headlines each quarter hour. Weather reports are just as regular, in this area where up to the minute reports of storms can be of great assistance to both the islanders, and the operators of oil platforms. All this news is interspersed between music, which rather than being 'run of the mill' Top 40, leans more towards a American A.O.R. format.



THE SHETLAND ISLANDS. A small piece in Now Radio mentioned that the Shetland Islands Broadcasting Company (S.I.B.C.) was actually on air, on 96.3MHz. to the inhabitants of Lerwick. This was then followed by several articles in the National Press (one of such is re - printed below, from the Guardian of 21st December). Then we we saw the 'No Limits' programme over Christmas and were convinced that the station was active, although the TV programme did say that it was a cable operation, although this is doubted very much in that area. Further reports are awaited.

DOREEN TAYLOR on the confused status of Shetland's commercial radio

## A station up in the air

IF YOU WERE a taxi driver in the Shetland Islands, Britain's most northerly group, how would you increase your business by 30 per cent? The answer: spend around £15.00 a week advertising on Shetland's new commercial radio station.

The story comes from Ian Anderson, managing director of the Shetland Islands Broadcasting Company (SIBC), who has opened the new service, but it is plausible. Until now, Shetland's only local radio service has been BBC Radio Shetland, which opts out from BBC Radio Scotland for around 2¼ hours a day, and listeners in Lerwick are intrigued at the newcomer.

Anderson's plan for a commercial station for Shetland has been long in his mind. At one time, he worked for Radio Caroline but since his return to his native island he has tirelessly pursued his radio dream.

First, he attempted to get a franchise from the IBA for a conventional IR station but was told the Shetland population was too low.

Persisting, he believes he was gaining Home Office sympathy when he was persuaded to join the community broadcasting movement, which seemed likely to be approved. But last year the Government got cold feet at the alleged incitement potential of community broadcasting among the disaffected of the inner cities. SIBC, in remotest Shetland, was shelved along with the rest.

So Anderson went it alone. Four weeks into transmission, the station is plagued by local controversy as to whether it has or has not got a Home Office licence. The Home Office says not. Anderson says it is a question of getting the paperwork done. Registered for VAT and copyright, he does not feel like a pirate. (BBC Scotland refrains from comment.)

The SIBC has invested £150,000 of privately raised money in its studios and FM transmitter. It serves only the area around Lerwick, Shetland's main town, but, Anderson claims, on full power it can and will reach all but a few isolated communities.

The station is music-based

and broadcasts round the clock. With a staff of four, it uses automatic equipment for overnight transmissions. But though the programmes are a mixture of music and information, Anderson believes that their heart must be in the latter, to provide a community service of information on road and sea conditions and arrivals of planes and boats, important to this remote cluster of islands, and the ever-changing weather.

"You can say on air one minute that it's sunny in Lerwick," Anderson laughed, "then look outside and find it's changed to rain!"

Local advertisers are asked to pay just £3.00 for 30 seconds and £5.00 for 60 seconds to keep this service going. It already claims 70 clients and 60 advertisement spots a day, with a peak of 120 one day last week. The local weekly paper, The Shetland Times, is looking a little warily at its infant competitor.

Though its basis is commercial, Anderson insists the station is truly a public service, ready to interrupt music at any time to give local news as it happens. In an emergency, for instance, it would first give news of a ship in difficulties, but stick with the story to release the details of the ship, crew, and rescue as they became available.

The staff of four will grow to 10, Anderson estimates, when he is able to expand his present limited schedule into a full news service, but one that will continue to centre on Shetland and Shetlanders.

Meantime, licence or no licence, the station is humming. And the Home Office may well be happy to let it run at a safe distance, to provide practical experience of the benefits and potential problems of this sort of radio.

Whatever the reason, now that the Shetlanders can at last and so suddenly listen to radio of a kind that most of us take for granted, it would be a hard-hearted and hard-faced official indeed who rushed to snatch the sweeties back from the kids.

SHETLAND ISLANDS BROADCASTING COMPANY LIMITED

Market Street

Lerwick

Shetland

ZE1 DJN

Enquiries and Sales: (0595) 5299

News and On-Air: (0595) 5181

Directors:

I. J. D. Anderson, J. E. Grunberg, I. R. Walterson

Reg. Office: 49/1 Market Street, Lerwick, Shetland, ZE1 DJN

Registered in Scotland Number: 95224

VAT Registration Number: 430 2407 93

BRISTOL. Here is a review of the pre - Christmas free radio activity from Terry, who lives in Bristol, which starts off, "As Sid would say, touched down on an incredible two stations between 23rd and 29th November!" First off is a mystery though, as for months now, Terry has been hearing a 'test tone' on 106.0MHz., in mono. This tone has been on 24 hours a day, and has been at varying power levels. Of course the Gas Board etc., are located in this area, but why would they be operating in such a manner. Does anyone have any ideas? Local free radio station activity began on Friday 27th at 19:00 when B.A.D. Radio (106.95MHz.) took to the air. the following day, Saturday 28th saw no 103.5 FM although they had mentioned they would not be on the air. B.A.D. Radio was again heard at 19:00, but had disappeared by 21:34. 103.5 FM finally made an appearance on Sunday 29th November, although this was to be their last for several weeks. They were first heard at 18:00 that evening with continuous music on 103.75MHz. in stereo. Programmes for that evening were... 18:00 Hits of 1980... 18:30 Hits of 1965... 19:00 Baldrick and Lord Meltchett... 22:00 Closedown. The audio on this occasion was apparently a little distorted, and the language content of the broadcast left a little to be desired. B.A.D. Radio were also heard that Sunday evening, and it was assumed they went on until the early hours of Monday morning. The last time 103.5 FM were heard was on Tuesday 1st December, when they conducted test transmissions on 97.7 and 103.75MHz in stereo.

The 'Dandy' celebrated 50 years of publishing, on 4th December, and that same evening, a Friday, B.A.D. Radio were once again on the air on 106.95MHz., with their usual diet of reggae, soul and rap. Audio levels on this occasion were higher than in the past, although the signal was weak. The station seems to broadcast late afternoons and evenings, and Sunday 6th December was no exception. At 16:00 they commenced broadcasts, but only using a fraction of the power than in their early days, last June. However, despite this low power, their broadcasting hours are now up to around 27 per week... Friday 19:00 - 03:00... Saturday... 19:00 - 03:00... Sunday 16:00 - 03:00. One interesting point to note about B.A.D. Radio, is that no mailing address is ever read out, or any contact number, yet many dedications are given out during each programme. The following weekend, the station managed another marathon, being first heard at 18:20 on Friday 11th December. Signal was slightly stronger than usual, but audio was again low. A Christmas Day party was announced for 124 Ashley Road. Then suddenly, at 23:00, the audio became pleasantly louder, and for a change, the stations unique format of reggae /soul /rap could be enjoyed. The deejay heard just before 23:00 was Delroy. That Friday evening seemed to be B.A.D.'s best so far. Disappointingly, the signal on Saturday and Sunday was much weaker, making listening impossible". That takes us up until a week before Christmas. The next report from Terry will be in the New Year, so we look forward to that, and hope that there is plenty of action for him to report on, in the meantime.

**OFFSHORE STATIONS.** 'Historian' Stuart tells us that it was four years ago on 22nd December since the M.V. Communicator first arrived off the Essex coast.

**M.V. COMMUNICATOR.** According to Now Radio Reports, the ship has once again established itself outside British territorial waters and plans to raise its famous 'deck - bound' masts 'within two weeks', but we have heard that one before, haven't we?

**THE VOICE OF PEACE.** From our intrepid reporters, the twins, Gali and Vered Kravitski, the latest news from the Med.... Geordie boy, Neil Armstrong completed his six month stint and presented his final show on Tuesday 15th December. Neil left the ship the following day and we expect that he has now returned to his home town in the U.K. A new programme has been noted called, 'Lifnai Sabbat' (Before



Saturday). It is presented each Friday from 14:00 until 15:00 from the studios in Tel Aviv. The presenter is Aitan Dancy and he speaks to various people about different subjects. The line up as of Thursday 17th December, reads.... 00:00 John McDonald, 03:00 Stuart Crombie, 06:00 Kenny Page, 09:00 Ian Hudson, 13:00 John McDonald, 16:00 Kenny Page, 18:00 Stuart Crombie, 19:30 John McDonald, 22:00 Ian Hudson. John McDonald asks us to pass his best wishes on to all his free radio friends and colleagues in Renfrewshire. In return, we wish all at the VOP, a Happy New Year.

**RADIO CAROLINE.** Not too much has happened during the past two weeks on board the Ross Revenge, as regards an increase in power on the only frequency currently being used, 558kHz. However, several new voices were heard starting on Christmas Day. First of all though, we will carry on the story where we left off in 'WR' 190, which was the afternoon of Sunday, 20th December 1987. The station closed down that day at 18:00, as it had been doing for some days previously, and indeed, apart from Christmas Day, has done since. Monday 21st December saw the actual return of the news service which had been promised for a couple of weeks. Obviously due to only two members of the broadcasting staff being on board, it was difficult to re-instate this service. However, despite hosting six hours of programming, Steve Conway also managed time to compile and read the news in the morning, and at tea-time. The 13:00 news bulletin was missing however. So, that Monday, saw a line-up of... 06:00 Chris Kennedy... 10:00 Steve Conway... 16:00 Chris Kennedy... 18:00 Closedown. A slightly changed line-up was noted on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (22nd, 23rd, and 24th December) of 06:00 Chris Kennedy... 09:00 Steve Conway... 15:00 Chris Kennedy... 18:00 Closedown. The slight alteration in programme times, was just more convenient to Steve for compiling the various news bulletins.

Christmas Day finally saw an increase in the number of staff, which gave Steve and Chris a little rest from the long hours they had been putting in. In addition, the hours were extended on this day from 12 to 18. Chris Kennedy signed-on at 06:00 as normal, with Steve Conway taking over at 10:00. Steve gave out many mentions to friends, and those who had written to the station throughout the year. He also announced that some new voices would be heard later in the day. Steve hosted until 14:00 when engineer Mike Watts took over for one of his rare appearances.

Mike carried on with the dedications until 18:00, which on normal days would have been time for closedown. However, this particular Friday being Christmas Day, a new voice was heard following Mike, that of John Bibby or Bevvie. He was heard for just two hours, and from what was said earlier in the day, we think it was a 'one off' appearance. Another new voice was heard at 20:00, that of Mike Dixon, and the third change to the line-up was at 22:00, with someone calling himself Steve Masters. This Steve Masters did not have an American accent, so he presumably was not the same one as we remember from the early days of Laser 558. Closedown on Christmas Day was at midnight, and this turned out to be the only extension of hours over the festive season. A new female cook was also believed to be on board, as references were made to one. A girl could also be heard from time to time, giggling in the background when the microphone was open - perhaps she had been sampling some of this year's home brewed beer?

Boxing Day (26th December), saw Steve Conway up for the Breakfast Show at 06:00. In fact, no news was broadcast on either Friday or Saturday, so Steve had a bit more time to do some programming. The rest of the day's line-up was... 09:00 Mike Dixon... 13:00 Steve Conway... 17:00 Steve Masters... 18:00 Closedown. The absence of Chris Kennedy was apparently due to him not being very well. Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday (27th and 28th) saw a steady line-up, with Chris Kennedy once again back in action. The station was still only operating for 12 hours however, with the following programmes... 06:00 Steve Masters... Chris Kennedy... 13:00 Mike Dixon... 17:00 Steve Masters... 18:00 Closedown. Due to the increase in staff numbers, the news has now returned to a full service with Steve Conway doing the honours. The 13:00 bulletin has also been re-instituted. The assumptions made from mentions on the air, that John Bibby was only there for one show seem to be correct, as he has not been heard since Christmas Day.

Many thanks to Ian in Harwich for all the information he supplied to us during the compilation of this report, as without him, we would have only had sketchy details of the happenings due to reception problems on 558kHz.

**THE CAROLINE LINE - UP CHART** for December 1987, as compiled by Ian Goddard is now available. It can be obtained simply by sending an 18p s.a.e. to : 621 Main Road, Dovercourt, Harwich CO12 4NH.

# £6 buys him a pair of boots.



Lifejacket and safety line £135

Protective jacket and hood £57

Protective trousers £49

Boots £6

It's not much to spend on a man who risks his life saving other people's. Yet the R.N.L.I. still depends for every penny on voluntary contributions. Contributions that are ever more urgently needed as operational costs rise. (Over the last 5 years they've doubled.)

Joining Shoreline, our supporters' organisation, is one of the best ways you can help.

And if you can afford more than the £6 subscription, perhaps you could buy him a pair of trousers.

To: The Director, R.N.L.I., West Quay Rd., Poole, Dorset BH15 1HZ. I wish to join Shoreline. Here is my subscription. Member £6 p.a. ☐ Family Membership £9 p.a. ☐ Governor £20 p.a. ☐ Life Governor £200 or more ☐ (Or) I enclose a donation of £\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

SEN 7/3

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Royal National

**Lifeboat**

Institution

## The Lifeboat Service

The RNLI is a voluntary organisation whose sole aim is the saving of life at sea. Since its foundation in 1824 over 110,000 people have been saved.

The lifeboat fleet is stationed round the entire coast of Britain, Ireland and the Channel Islands. There are 200 lifeboat stations.

Modern lifeboats, built to extremely high standards and fitted with sophisticated equipment, cost thousands of pounds to build and maintain.

Lifeboatmen are volunteers, who, in addition to their everyday jobs, are ready to exchange leisure, comfort and sleep, for cold, wet, fatigue, and a range of situations that will test their skill, their strength and their nerve. Distress calls can come at any time of the year, day or night. They can come in all kinds of weather, good, bad and awful - and they are always answered.

Usually the only full time member of the crew is the mechanic who is an employee of the RNLI.

While to this day many lifeboatmen are fishermen, men from other walks of life are increasingly taking

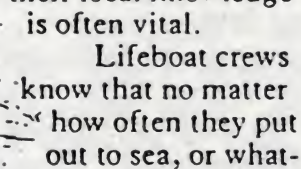
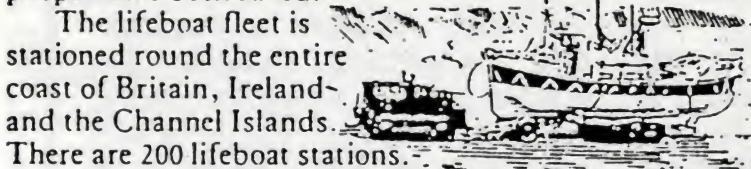
active people in the community. They devote considerable time and energy to the efficiency and well-being of the station and their local knowledge is often vital.

Lifeboat crews know that no matter how often they put out to sea, or whatever they may face, they can always count on the support and loyalty of the community.

The lifeboat service depends for its income entirely on voluntary contributions, and the 'Shoreline' membership scheme provides an important part of that income.

As soon as you join, you will receive the latest issue of our magazine and details of all the RNLI insignia (badges, flags, ties, etc.) which you can buy. If you wish to play an active part in fund-raising and social events, we can put you in touch with your nearest RNLI branch, but there is no obligation to do anything other than send us your annual contribution. Joining 'Shoreline' is one of the best ways you can help us.

Royal National Lifeboat Institution, West Quay Rd., Poole, Dorset BH15 1HZ. Tel: Poole (0202) 671133. Reg. Charity No. 209603.



places in the crew. The most important reason for a voluntary service is that each lifeboat station attracts to itself a number of the most able and most

Royal National

**Lifeboat**

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